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ARAB, AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES END TALKS IN KUWAIT

LD051058Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--Late last night 24 Arab and African countries ended 3 days of talks here by calling for more economic and political cooperation between the Arab world and the African Continent. The talks, which were held within the framework of the permanent ministerial committee of Arab-African cooperation, have resulted in an agreement to hold the first expanded conference of the Arab and African foreign minsters in Tripoli, on condition that the date of this meeting be fixed through consultations to be held between Mahmud Riyad, secretary general of the Arab League, and Edem Kodjo, secretary general of the OAU.

The committee entrusted the two secretaries general with the task of fixing the place and date of the conferences of Arab and African ministers of information and labor. Tunisia has welcomed the convening of the information ministers on its own territory, while the African group was asked to fix the place and date for the conference of labor ministers. It has been learned that both Kenya and Senegal have expressed a wish to host this conference.

The permanent committee of Arab and African financial establishments called for strengthening all aspects of coordination between them, to serve the aims of Arab-African cooperation in a better manner.

It urged that the OAU member-countries and the countries of the Arab League should discuss strengthening the means of cooperation between them in the political field and in boycotting the racist regimes in southern Africa and the Zionist regime in occupied Palestine.

DEVELOPMENT BANK WARNS AFRICAN STATES AGAINST ISRAELI CONTACTS

LD060058Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] Kuwait--The head of the largest joint Arab organization that gives assistance to Africa today warned that the organization will immediately freeze its operation with any African state that restores diplomatic relations with Israel. This warning was made by Dr ash-Shadhli al-'Ayyari, president of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, at a press conference he held here after attending the Arab-African cooperation conference which ended yeaterday.

Dr al-'Ayyari said that no Eastern or Western state extended the kind of aid and assistance to Africa extended by the Arab countries, whether viewed from the level or volume of financing, "and this is by the admission of the Africans themselves and the admission of the World Bank and the Western countries." He mentioned that the total of Arab aid and loans to the African countries have reached more than $3 billion. He described the Arab bank's conditions, with its headquarters in Khartoum, as being very generous and with an interest, under normal circumstances, that does not exceed 4 percent for 20 or more years.

He stressed that no political, economic or commercial restrictions are placed on Arab assistance to Africa: "The only restriction is to exclude those African countries which cooperate with Israel or establish diplomatic relations with it." He said that Arab-African cooperation was absolutely not based on any political or racial discrimination, and that no linkage exists such as that between the Western countries and the borrowing, developing countries, which need to purchase goods, and the products of those countries offering loans.

BAHRAIN

KUWAITI DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MANAMA FROM SAUDI ARABIA

LD061314Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Summary] "His Highness the Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah and accompanying delegation arrived in Manama at noon today from Jidda for a 4-day official visit to fraternal Bahrain in line with his current tour in the gulf countries." The amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and others were at the airport to welcome him.

Talks Begin

JN070901Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 7 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Manama, 7 December--The official talks between Bahraini and Kuwaiti officials began here today. The Bahraini side was headed by Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and the Kuwaiti side was headed by Crown Prince and Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. It has been learned that the talks will center on consolidating bilateral relations in the political, economic and cultural fields. The talks will also deal with collective coordination among the gulf states.

KUWAIT

SOVIET REFUSAL TO GIVE ARMS TO SYRIA CONSIDERED

LD060955Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 2 Dec 78 pp 1, 19 LD

[Ilyas Masuh article: "The Full Story of the Crisis Between Damascus and Moscow"]

[Excerpts] Many have been surprised by developments in the Syrian-Soviet situation, particularly since this has come in the wake of the Syrian-Iraqi agreement and the Arab summit resolutions in Baghdad. But what is the story?

It is understood that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad visited the Soviet Union early last October, following the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front summit held in the Syrian capital. At the meeting, it was decided to send the Syrian president to Moscow to discuss with its leaders questions of providing the necessary arms to establish a strategic balance in the Arab-Israeli conflict after Egypt had opted out of it.

At President Hafiz al-Asad's talks with the Soviet leaders it was agreed that the Soviet Union would supply the required arms, within the framework of clear principles aimed at making Syria capable of confronting Israel. The agreement's provisions allowed Syria to draw up a list of its military requirements and send it with a high-ranking military delegation to discuss it with Soviet military leaders in Moscow.

In fact, such a list was drawn up and was taken by a delegation headed by Syrian Chief of Staff Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, who left for Moscow 10 days ago. But the delegation soon returned when the Soviets began discussing the situation from a new and different angle, contrary to what was agreed upon between President al-Asad and Brezhnev.

The Syrian delegation was surprised to hear the Soviets express the view that the Syrians' demands are both quantitatively and qualitatively beyond their powers of absorption and consequently would lead to a disruption of the Middle East balance of power, as well as encouraging the Israelis to wage a "preventive war" to prevent the absorption of such weapons before they are used.

Moreover, the Russians asked that the cost of the arms that they agreed to supply be paid in hard currency and immediately.

They based their stand on the premise that the Baghdad summit had approved financial aid to Syria, enabling it to pay for such arms immediately. The Russian negotiators also pointed out that the Syrian-Iraqi agreement has added the whole of Iraq's strength to that of Syria, which makes the desired strategic balance an actual reality without need for the requested types of sophisticated weapons. But the Syrian chief of staff explained to the Soviets that modern warfare, particularly Arab-Israeli wars, are characterized by lightning speed. This is especially true in the context of the area's current conditions and the implications of the conflict, which might develop into a major international conflict.

As for paying for arms, the Syrians said that the Arab aid for Syria decided upon at the Baghdad summit remains just a decision, but that Syria will pay for the arms as soon as the aid money is received.

But the Syrian negotiator failed to change the new Soviet attitude and contacted the Syrian command in Damascus to let it know what was happening. The Syrian command decided it was better to cut off the talks and recall the delegation.

But has the matter reached a deadend?

Syrian circles speak about the "feeling of bitterness" among Syrian officials, who avoid discussing the subject and are reaffirming their desire to strengthen friendship with the Soviets.

The circles add that the feeling of bitterness is coupled with a sense of responsibility in that the Syrians, who care a great deal for their independence and freedom of action, realize that the Soviet Union is their principal provider of arms and also realize that the West will not give them the arms they need.

Therefore, the Syrians are dealing with the matter with prudence and patience, which is considered the best way to deal with the Soviets.

This situation has been the subject of intensive discussions between Damascus and Baghdad with a view to adopting a unified stand on the matter. Well-informed sources told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM that President al-Asad and Saddam Husayn are expected to pay a joint visit to Moscow after the Iraqi-Syrian summit, to be held in Damascus during the first half of December.

The question remains: Why do the Soviets refuse to give such arms to Syria?

Well-informed observers say that the Soviets primarily fear Syria's strong national commitments. Once Syria actually possesses such arms, war would become inevitable. In fact, from the beginning the Soviets have constantly "drawn the line" for Syrian armament so Syria would remain under control.

Also, Soviet "concern" has increased following the Iraqi-Syrian agreement, since the two countries, in view of their national commitments, together constitute a massive power that, if they possess large quantities of sophisticated weapons, will be beyond "control."

The Soviets are also afraid that this would have an impact on their relations with the United States, for the Soviets know when and how far to move when the matter involves U.S. strategic interests. But the Soviets also realize that their presence in the area depends on their relations with the Syrians. Therefore, if they continue with such a stance they will find that they have been put in the same category as the United States--hostility to the Arabs and plotting against them. The Soviets also probably realize that their presence in this extremely important area will be dealt a deadly blow should the Syrians decide to create a crisis with Moscow.

SAUDI ARABIA

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON YAR PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL VISIT

Meets With Crown Prince

LD061218Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--A meeting between His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and His Excellency Yemeni President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih was held today at 1245 at the guests palace in al-Nasiriyah. The meeting was attended by Dr Rashad Far'awn, his majesty's private adviser. SNA has learned that questions of common interest, bilateral cooperation, current Arab conditions and the need for consultations and coordination to reach the common target and strengthen Arab solidarity were reviewed at the meeting.

Departs Saudi Arabia

LD061220Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1125 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih left Riyadh this afternoon for home at the end of his 1-day visit to the kingdom. His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was at the airport to see him off.

Press Statement Issued

LD061604Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

["The Kingdom and Yemen, Press Statement"--SNA headline]

[Text] Riyadh--The kingdom and the Yemen Arab Republic have agreed on the need to strengthen and consolidate fraternal bonds and bolster cooperation in various political development spheres between them and to continue contacts for the purpose of joint coordination. The press statement, made public today at the end of the visit of His Excellency Yemeni President Lt Col 'Ali Abdallah Salih, to the kingdom, says that his excellency held talks with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The Yemeni president expressed his satisfaction with the coincidence of viewpoints, as well as his and the accompanying delegation's pleasure with the positive results produced by these contacts. The Yemeni president also expressed his appreciation for the generous hospitality and wished the Saudi people continued progress and prosperity under the leadership of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

YAR-SAUDI COORDINATION COUNCIL MEETS IN RIYADH

JN061416Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] The Yemeni-Saudi Joint Coordination Council today held an extraordinary meeting in Riyadh. The two sides discussed and reviewed issues listed on the agenda of the next session, to begin on 1 March 1979. The YAR side at the meeting was headed by YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj, while the Saudi side was headed by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, defense and aviation minister.

KUWAITI OIL MINISTER VISITS FOR TALKS ON OPEC

Arrives 3 December

LD032038Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, the Kuwaiti oil minister, arrived in Riyadh today. He was welcomed at the airport by Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral wealth, and a number of officials.

Comments on Talks

LD051812Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah today stated that Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are in agreement that all OPEC members should strive to adopt unified decisions within the organization. Following his short visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Shaykh 'Ali told KUNA that the purpose of his visit was not to reach agreement on a fixed figure for increasing the price of oil, "because this is left to the debates of the OPEC ministers" at the coming conference in Abu Dhabi on the 16th of this month. He said that his talks in Riyadh dealt only with the need to make an effort to reach a collective decision within OPEC.

The oil minister excluded the possible occurrence of differences within OPEC, stressing that he sees no reason for noncohesion in the organization, which embraces 13 states. He said that the organization has held more than 52 meetings, the percentage of collective decisions was 98 percent, and they have differed at only one meeting and for only a short period. The day before yesterday, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah left for Riyadh in response to a summons from Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, who is currently visiting the kingdom.

UAE PETROLEUM MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT 5 DECEMBER

LD051012Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, petroleum minister of the United Arab Emirates, arrived in Riyadh this morning on a visit to the kingdom at the beginning of a third tour he is making, during which he is to visit some Arab capitals before the OPEC conference in Abu Dhabi in mid-December. He was welcomed on arrival by Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, and by a number of the ministry's officials.

Issues Statement

LD051804Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1135 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--At noon today, His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister.

Dr al-'Ataybah stated that he conveyed a verbal message to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and to His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, from His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, head of the UAE. In a statement to SNA, his excellency said that he conveyed to his majesty and to his royal highness the crown prince the results of his last two visits to OPEC countries, the understanding he received from their leaders and their readiness to cooperate with the kingdom and the UAE on oil issues of mutual interest. His excellency expressed his optimism that success would be achieved by the coming conference of the organization in Abu Dhabi and that it will produce sensible and balanced decisions, acceptable to the whole world, showing responsibility and understanding for international economic and political conditions.

Dr al-'Utaybah went on to say: Naturally, the OPEC conference will be preceded by movements and contacts such as those currently taking place, which are considered an encouraging factor. He mentioned that the OPEC countries are concerned about the state of the dollar, because it directly affects their revenue from oil and their investments. He said that we support every measure taken by U.S. President Jimmy Carter and the U.S. administration to bolster the dollar and strengthen its position, as it is considered an index of oil prices and the main market for OPEC countries' investments.

His excellency stressed that the Islamic religion orders that we be a nation of mediators. He said: If we adopt this principle, we can expect to produce positive results regarding oil prices, which is the major topic on the agenda of the coming OPEC conference. His excellency expressed his desire to maintain constant contact with Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, stemming from full coordination between the two sister countries in all spheres.

Leaves for Baghdad

LD051808Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1110 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, left Riyadh for Baghdad today following a short visit to the kingdom, during which he had a meeting with Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs. Dr al-'Utaybah was seen off at the airport by Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani and a number of senior officials from the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs.

KUWAITI DELEGATION'S VISIT RESULTS IN COMMUNIQUE

LD061256Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--The kingdom and Kuwait have called for the need to devote all potential to strengthening Arab solidarity, considering it a pillar of the Arab nation, along with settling all Arab disputes through constructive fraternal dialog and eliminating anything impairing the effectiveness of this solidarity in confronting the enormous dangers and challenges threatening the Arab nation.

The two sides have affirmed their renewed confidence in the need to achieve full cooperation among all gulf countries and for the region to remain a region of peace, security and stability, remote from the arenas of world conflict. They have agreed to extend the scope of the joint Saudi-Kuwaiti committee to include, in addition to both countries' foreign ministers, the ministers of finance and national economy, and of commerce and petroleum and mineral resources, in an effort to increase cooperation and integration between the kingdom and Kuwait in various spheres.

This came in a joint statement made public today at the end of the visit of His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Kuwait, and the accompanying delegation to the kingdom.

Here is the text of the statement:

In answer to the official invitation by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz Al Sa'ud, crown prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, to his brother His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince of Kuwait and chairman of the Council of Ministers, his highness paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 2 to 6 Muharram 1399 AH, corresponding to 2 to 6 December 1978.

The noble guest was warmly welcomed on both the official and popular levels, truly expressive of the genuine and deep historical links between the two fraternal countries and peoples and the great affection and deep appreciation felt by the kingdom for the fraternal state of Kuwait. The welcomers were headed by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and their royal highnesses the princes and senior officials of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. On this occasion, His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud granted an audience to His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah and the accompanying delegation, to pay his respect to his majesty and to convey a verbal message from his brother His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, which included fraternal and affectionate sentiments which link the two great monarchs and their fraternal peoples.

Within the framework of genuine fraternity, total understanding and efforts to cement the close cooperative links between the two countries, talks took place which, for the Saudi side, were headed by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, with the participation of His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior; Dr Rashad Far'awn, his majesty's private adviser; Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs; Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khumaytir, minister of education; Dr Sulayman as-Sulayyim, minister of commerce; Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary in the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs; Shaykh Fahd al-Sudayri, the kingdom's ambassador to Kuwait, and Isma'il ash-Shuri, head of Arab affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

The Kuwaiti side was headed by His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince and chairman of the Council of Ministers. Participating were His Highness Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister; 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-Atiqi, minister of finance; Jasim Khalid ad-Da'ud al-Marzuq, minister of education; 'Abd al-Wahhab Yusuf an-Nafisi, minister of commerce and industry; and Maj Gen 'Abd al-Latif Faysal ath-Thuwayni, under secretary in the Ministry of the Interior.

Also participating were Sa'ud Muhammad al-Authaymi, Kuwait's ambassador to the kingdom; Dr Tariq Zarruqi, director of the Legal Department at the Foreign Ministry; 'Abd al-Latif Abd al-Rahman al-Bahr, director of his highness the crown prince's office and chairman of the Council of Ministers' office; 'Abd al-Aziz Muhammad Ja'far, under secretary in charge of broadcasting affairs at the Ministry of Information; Ahmad al-Jasir, assistant under secretary at the Ministry of Education, and Ali al-Wazzan, assistant under secretary at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The two sides reviewed the existing firm relations between the two fraternal countries in the political, economic, cultural and information spheres. The two sides showed their satisfaction over the continuing growth of these relations and affirmed their determination to continue joint efforts to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various spheres, to achieve the progress and prosperity for which they strive. In line with this, agreement was reached on the general rules for partitioning the Al-Maghmurah region facing the neutral zone in a manner that defines responsibilities and permits exploitation in a way guaranteeing both sides' rights.

The two sides also dealt with other issues connected with implementing the agreement concerning the partitioned region and the memorandum of understanding signed between the two countries on 2/29/1395 on this matter and agreed on measures to implement it. They also reviewed the progress made since the two countries signed the economic cooperation agreement and as a result of meetings of the joint economic cooperation committee and measures adopted by the two governments to realize the target of linking the two countries' economic activities--whether through joint private sector activities or through both countries' economic establishments. Understanding was reached to realize the desired economic integration, especially in regard to setting up joint industries and studying existing industries with the aim of making joint partnerships possible.

Agreement was also reached on expanding and encouraging the list of products exempted from custom duties between the two countries. The two sides have also shown interest in studying the easing of movement by citizens of both countries through the use of identity cards, without international passports. Both sides have shown extreme interest in the coordination and cooperation achieved in the education and information spheres, under the guidance of the cooperation and cultural-educational bilateral agreements. They praised the specialized institutions already set up to serve educational and information purposes in the Arab Gulf countries, to realize coordination of efforts in all spheres and also praised both countries' universities and research institutes for carrying out exchanges and visits between professors and specialists to achieve cooperation and coordination at the university teaching level and in scientific research. The two sides also agreed to extend the scope of the followup joint committee to include, in addition to the foreign ministers of both countries, the ministers of finance, national economy, and trade, petroleum and mineral resources.

When reviewing the situation in the Arabian Peninsula and the gulf, the two sides reasserted their belief that continuing positive action for consolidating the pillars of cooperation in all fields among the region's countries is a natural duty, dictated by the deep relations that have linked them throughout history, represented in the unity of faith, language, interests, aspirations, goals and fate. This firm cooperation has become the best way to achieve the aspirations of the region's peoples for strength, protection and prosperity. They also stressed their concern that the region should remain a zone of peace, security and stability, far from the arena of international conflict, and that relations among all these countries be established on the firm base of mutual respect, organized coordination and effective solidarity, for the purpose of making use of their great joint resources in carrying out the worthy role of serving their peoples.

The two sides concentrated on development of the Arab cause. They agreed that all potential must be channelled toward consolidating Arab solidarity, it being the backbone of the Arab nation's strength and its most effective weapon, particularly in this decisive phase of its history. The two sides underlined the need to preserve this solidarity and to settle all differences through constructive fraternal dialog and to remove anything that would impede the effectiveness of this solidarity in facing the great dangers and challenges threatening the Arab nation, which primarily demand the channelling of all resources toward consolidating the unity of its ranks in realizing its common aim.

The two sides extolled the results of this visit in connection with consolidating and strengthening the firm bilateral relations. His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Sabah thanked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, its king, government and people for the warm and tremendous welcome and hospitality accorded him during his visit. He wished the Saudi and Kuwaiti Arab peoples continued prosperity and progress under the highly regarded sovereigns of the two countries. He implored God to grand all Arab and Moslem nations the might and glory for which they aspire.

Shaykh Sad al-Abdallah as-Sabah, the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, extended an invitation to his brother His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, to pay an official visit to Kuwait. His royal highness accepted the invitation with thanks and promised to do so as soon as possible.

Issued in Riyadh 1/6/1399 of the Hegira, corresponding to 6 December 1978.

Delegation Departs for Bahrain

LD061312Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] Jidda--His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Kuwait, and the accompanying delegation, left Jidda this morning for Bahrain at the end of the 5-day official visit to the kingdom.

UAE

YAR PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI FROM RIYADH

JN061326Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1320 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 6 December--YAR President His Excellency Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening from Riyadh on a 1-day official visit to the UAE.

UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan led those who welcomed the YAR President.

The delegation accompanying the YAR president is made up of Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj; Yahya Jaghman, personal representative of the YAR president; 'Abdallah al-Kurshumi, minister of public works; 'Ali Wasi ath-Thawr, minister of development; Ahmad Muhammad al-Ansi, minister of communications and transport; Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Samawi, minister of finance; Muhammad Ahmad al-Ashabi, minister of health; and Ahmad Rida, secretary general of the presidential office.

Presidents Begin Talks

JN061833Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1640 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 December--The official talks between UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih began here this evening.

The UAE side in the talks included the chief of the president's office; the ministers of foreign affairs, petroleum and natural resources, public works and housing, health, and communications; the armed forces commander in chief; and the UAE ambassador in San'a'. The YAR side included Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Agnaj and members of the YAR delegation accompanying President Salih. The YAR president arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening from Riyadh on a 1-day visit to the UAE.

First Session Ends

JN061834Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1650 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 December--The first session of official talks between the UAE and the YAR was concluded at 2030 today. The first session was followed by a closed session restricted to the two countries' presidents.

Foreign Minister Makes Statement

JN061839Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1705 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 December--Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi has stated that the talks between the UAE and YAR presidents dealt with the Arab situation in general and the situation in the gulf area in particular.

This came in a statement As-Suwaydi made following the first session of official talks here this evening between His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The talks were attended by the two countries' delegations.

As-Suwaydi added that the discussions also touched on bilateral relations. The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation between them in all fields, particularly in economy and culture.

As-Suwaydi said that the talks will be resumed at 0900 tomorrow in Al-Musharraf Palace to complete discussion of the topics raised by the two presidents and members of the delegations.

Talks End 7 December

JN070826Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0650 GMT 7 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 December--The official UAE-YAR talks ended this morning. UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih held a 1-hour session of talks in Al-Musharraf Palace this morning.

The two leaders held a similar session of talks yesterday evening. A joint statement on the visit of the YAR President to the UAE will be issued simultaneously in the two countries at 1530 today UAE time.

YAR President Ends Visit

JN070858Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 7 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 December--YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the accompanying delegation left for San'a' this morning at the end of a 1-day visit to the UAE.

The YAR president was seen off at the airport by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and several high-ranking officials.

PETROLEUM MINISTER RETURNS FROM VISIT TO IRAQ, SAUDI ARABIA

JN061356Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 6 Nov 78 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 6 December--Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, returned to Abu Dhabi from Baghdad this afternoon at the end of a tour of Saudi Arabia and Iraq. While in Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Dr al-'Utaybah conveyed messages from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Praises Results of Visit

JN061939Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1645 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 December--Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, has submitted a report on the outcome of his visit to Saudi Arabia and Iraq to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. Dr al-'Utaybah conveyed to Shaykh Zayid reply messages from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Saddam Husayn, Iraqi Revolution Command Council vice chairman.

Dr al-'Utaybah expressed optimism over the outcome of his tour of a number of Arab petroleum producing countries. In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, Dr al-'Utaybah said: We are optimistic about preparations under way for the OPEC conference. He said that the UAE, acting on the instructions of his highness the president, has managed to play a role in bringing the views of the OPEC countries closer on the question of prices, the percentage of the expected increase and other issues to be discussed by the OPEC conference in Abu Dhabi on 16 December.

YEMEN-PDRY

FORMER YAR DIPLOMAT ON 'GROWING' RESISTANCE IN YAR

LD061810Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother Dr Muhammad 'Ali ash-Shihari, the well-known progressive writer and former diplomat at the San'a' regime's embassy in Czechoslovakia, held a conference this morning, during which he referred to Yemeni revolutionary issues and the struggle of the masses in the northern part of the homeland.

He said economic, financial, political and living conditions in the northern part of the homeland were now worse than they had ever been since 5 November 1967.

He added that the crisis now facing the northern part of the homeland had paved the way for the revolutionary uprising currently in progress there. This was reflected in a growing nationalist resistance of an armed, popular and political nature. Members of the armed forces and rebellious tribesmen were joining these forces and their militant nationalist contingents against the ruling regime.

He spoke about rising U.S. influence in the form of U.S. intelligence in the military and political fields. He said this influence aimed at linking the northern part of the homeland to reaction and imperialism.

In conclusion, Dr ash-Shihari said that there was no way of facing these threats to the Yemeni revolution except by uniting and (?coordinating) the nationalist struggle, hastening the overthrow of the reactionary San'a' regime, and thwarting imperialist designs.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL FRONT CITED ON FIGHTING IN YAR PROVINCE

ID051752Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Dec 78 ID/EA

[Text] The forces of the agent reactionary regime of San'a' have launched a military campaign against the Wadi al-Harr region of the (?Anis) tribe in Dhamar Province, in revenge for the killing of the traitorous agent, (Shaykh Ali Abu Yabith), and three informers of the agent regime at the hands of fighters of the revolutionary people's forces of the Democratic National Front [DNF]. This has been stated by a responsible DNF source and published today in 14 OCTOBER.

The DNF source said that the military campaign had resulted in the destruction of three villages, killing of scores of innocent people and the driving out of the rest of the inhabitants. The source said that DNF forces had resisted that attack and that fighting was still in progress.

HUNGARIAN PARTY DELEGATION TO VISIT ADEN 14 DECEMBER

ID062052Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Dec 78 ID/EA

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and Central Committee secretary, received in his office this morming the comrade ambassador of the People's Republic of Hungary in Aden. During the meeting, the means of developing and strengthening relations between the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party were discussed.

The ADEN NEWS AGENCY has learned that the Hungarian ambassador revealed that a Hungarian party delegation will arrive on a working tour on 14 December. It will remain until 20 December for consultations and meetings with YSP leaders, to strengthen struggle relations between the two parties in the ideological and economic spheres and to congratulate the YSP on its achievements, including the election of the People's Supreme Council.

BRIEFS

SAUDI ENVOY TO YAR--Tirad al-Harithi, new Saudi ambassador to the YAR, today submitted a copy of his credentials to YAR Foreign Minister al-Asnaj. [Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Dec 78 ID]

COMMENTARY ACCUSES SOVIETS IN BULGARIAN EMBASSY INCIDENT

LD061452Y Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Hasan Shturah commentary]

[Excerpt] It is certain that the Bulgarian Government still holds the belief that foreign privileges, with all the degredation to the dignity of the state and the citizen which they represent, still apply in Egypt. Evidence of this fact is the assault by its Cairo embassy on citizens and also its confrontation of the Egyptian authorities. It would have been possible, with good intentions and without premeditation to deal with the matter through normal and established diplomacy. The Bulgarian Government preferred, however, to create a diplomatic crisis, and it aggravated the crisis to the point that Egypt had no alternative but to sever diplomatic relations to preserve the dignity of its sons and citizens and to assert its sovereignty over its soil.

Here yet another fact emerges: the role which the Bulgarian Government is playing now, its being a cat's paw in the hand of the Soviet Union in whose orbit it revolves and whose orders it obeys. The style of the Bulgarian Government and its misleading propaganda campaign in this connection clearly reveal its ill intensions and that it would not have been able to do or say what it has done and said if it were not pushed by the Soviet Union. Had Soviet-Egyptian relations been normal, the Bulgarian Government would not have dared to move in the way it has; had the incident been a mistake by some of its representatives, and had the incident taken place without the knowledge of the Bulgarian Government--in other words a personal mistake--the Bulgarian Government would have quickly rendered its apology and would have expressed willingness to settle the manner in a way to please Egypt.

That is not the case. The Soviet Union, which has failed more than once to create disturbances and trouble in Egypt and has, at the international level, failed in attacking Egypt which had put an end to Soviet presence on its soil and has exposed the subversive role of this presence in the region, seized this opportunity so as to turn it into a topic for a fresh campaign through which it squirts out its venom and rancor over Egypt and its people.

The Soviet Union and all those who revolve in its orbit and obey its orders have forgotten that Egypt long ago (?did away) with foreign privileges which the foreign countries used to give themselves and through which they were able to embark on all kinds of stupidities and at the same time remain out of the reach of punishment of responsibility. Furthermore, the Soviet Union, and behind it the Bulgarian Government, fails to understand the true meaning of the sovereignty of the state or the meaning of diplomatic immunity which in no way gives a free hand to the diplomat to break the law of the country in which he is residing; he has to respect this law and must act in accordance with the requirements of the general system of regulations in the host state.

Envoy to Leave Cairo

NC061320Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1256 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 December--Bulgarian Ambassador Georgi Vladikov and the other members of the Bulgarian Embassy staff will leave Cairo for Sofia on 7 December aboard a special plane which arrived in Cairo yesterday. This follows Egypt's severance of its diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.

Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Sa'd 'Afram met today with the Bulgarian ambassador in Cairo to discuss travel arrangements and topics related to the steps that will follow the break in relations, especially in connection with the consular work and the necessary measures in this respect.

It is worth noting that the break in diplomatic relations with Bulgaria does not mean cutting off trade and consular relations. The Egyptian trade representation office in Sofia will continue to operate.

AS-SADAT REFUSES TO COMMENT ON BEGIN LETTER

NC061540Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived in Al-Minya this afternoon. The president was accompanied by Vice President Husni Mubarak and some ministers. The president has thus begun his tour of some governorates of the republic.

Newsmen and correspondents of world news agencies and radio and television surrounded the president, asking his excellency to comment on the letter he has received from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. He said that he will comment on this letter only after he studies it with senior officials. Then his excellency will comment.

President as-Sadat stated that his visits to the governorates will bolster democracy and the multiple party system in Egypt.

TITO RECEIVES PRIME MINISTER KHALIL IN BELGRADE

NC061150Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1054 GMT 5 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 6 December--Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito met with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil at 1100 Cairo time today.

The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by the Foreign Ministry's first under secretary, Ambassador Usamah al-Baz, and Egyptian Ambassador in Belgrade Jamal Mansur. It was attended on the Yugoslav side by President of the Federal Executive Council Vaselin Djuranovic, Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Josip Vrhovec, Chief of the Yugoslav President's Office (Badurya) and President Tito's adviser for foreign affairs (Matskevic).

Dr Mustafa Khalil is scheduled to leave Belgrade for Vienna later today. From there he will go to London.

MENA has learned that during his meeting with the Egyptian prime minister yesterday, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu expressed Romania's support for the efforts of President Anwar as-Sadat to achieve a peaceful, just and durable solution in the Middle East.

During his visit to Bucharest, Dr Mustafa Khalil invited Romanian Prime Minister Manea Manescu to visit Cairo. Menescu gratefully accepted the invitation and promised to make the visit soon.

Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz described President Tito's meeting with Dr Mustafa Khalil as extremely successful and important.

Dr al-Baz said that during the 9-minute meeting, Dr Mustafa Khalil explained Egypt's efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement, as well as Egypt's insistence on adhering to the Palestinian people's rights and the need to link the proposed treaty with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Dr al-Baz explained that President Tito expressed support for Egypt's constructive efforts to achieve a just peace, for the Arab rights, for the implementation of the UN resolutions and for impartiality toward the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Dr al-Baz noted that the two sides affirmed the need to continue moves to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

MENA has learned that the two sides exchanged views on several points regarding the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, inter-Arab relations and the need to achieve Arab solidarity and surmount differences. MENA has also learned that the two sides hold identical views on the Palestine problem as the core of the Middle East crisis and on considering that peace and stability cannot be achieved in the area without the Palestinian people having recovered their legitimate rights, including their right to determine their own fate. Sources close to the Egyptian delegation have also stated that the two sides agreed to continue coordination and consultations between themselves in order to generate momentum for peace, with all the parties concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict participating in bringing about a settlement.

Dr Mustafa Khalil arrived in Belgrade yesterday for a 21-hour visit, on which he was accompanied by Dr Usamah al-Baz.

KHALIL IN LONDON; MEETING WITH DAYAN NOT CONFIRMED

LD062336Y London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 2325 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, flew into London tonight amid reports that a top-level meeting is scheduled with Israeli ministers on the Middle East.

A report by the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY said that Dr Khalil will meet Israeli Foreign Minister Mr Moshe Dayan, and Israeli Defense Minister Mr 'Ezer Weizman either in London or Bonn within a few hours. But no official confirmation of any such meetings was forthcoming in London.

Neither the Egyptian nor Israeli embassies had heard that a meeting was planned. But General Dayan is on an official visit to Switzerland until Friday. The Israeli Embassy said that as far as they knew he intended to complete this visit.

The Foreign Office was also unable to offer confirmation of a meeting between Egyptian and Israeli ministers.

Dr Khalil will meet Mr Callaghan tomorrow as scheduled. He id due to fly to Paris tomorrow evening and on to Bonn the following day.

Khalil Denies Meeting Set

NC070617Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 7 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil arrived in London from Vienna yesterday. He denied reports that his upcoming meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will take place in Switzerland. He said that the venue and date of the meeting have not been set yet.

GHALI MEETS WITH VISITING FOREIGN OFFICIALS, ENVOYS

NC062011Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1950 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 December--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met today with Mr John Mason, the British ambassador to Israel, who is currently visiting Cairo. The meeting, which lasted about 1 hour, was attended by Willie Morris, the British ambassador in Cairo.

Willie Morris told MENA after the meeting that the discussion dealt with developments in the Middle East issue in the light of the current peace talks.

Niger Foreign Minister

NC062037Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 December--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met this evening with Niger Foreign Minister Adamou Djermakoye, who arrived in Cairo earlier this evening from Kuwait on a 1-day visit to Egypt.

MENA has learned that during this meeting a review was made of developments in the Middle East situation in the light of the peace talks in Washington and the results of the meetings of the Arab-African solidarity committee, which were held in Kuwait last week. The discussion in the 1-hour meeting also dealt with a number of African issues of interest to the two countries and bilateral relations.

The Niger foreign minister will leave Cairo tomorrow for home.

Saudi, Qatari, UAE Envoys

NC061542Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with the ambassadors of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Qatar and with the UAE charge d'affaires.

During these meetings, the Arab position and developments in the Middle East crisis were reviewed.

MAMDUH SALIM LEAVES CAIRO FOR AFRICAN VISIT

NC061310Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim left Cairo at noon today to begin a tour of western African states. He will deliver messages from President Anwar as-Sadat to the heads of these states dealing with developments in the situation in the Middle East, and Egypt's position. Mamduh Salim will also have talks with the heads of the states he will visit. The talks will deal with the Middle East issue in the light of Egypt's efforts to find a comprehensive solution to the crisis.

AL-AHRAM: ISRAEL'S REFUSAL OF TREATY LINKAGE UNJUSTIFIABLE

LD061213Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 1 Dec 78 pp 1, 3 LD

[By Chief Editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal]

[Text] President Jimmy Carter this afternoon will receive Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, who will carry to him a message from President as-Sadat on Egypt's stand toward the current peace talks.

A few days ago President Carter received Vice President Mubarak for the same reason.

Certainly the Egyptian political line which Mubarak conveyed earlier is the same as the line Dr Khalil will convey today. Both meetings underline Egypt's sincere desire to achieve peace and confirm that its policy in this regard is clear, specific and not subject to compromise and bargaining. Its only aim is to preserve the interests of all the parties, including Israel, and to confirm its commitment to what it accepted and agreed on at the Camp David talks.

President Carter knows--as President Ford knew--that Egypt is acting on the basis of its pan-Arab commitment and its historic responsibility in the area. It is not seeking a separate solution or the recovery of its land alone. Indeed it insists on a comprehensive solution to the problem and considers the Palestinian and Syrian lands an extension of the Egyptian land.

Why then, are all these contacts being held?

Why are the negotiations in Washington faltering?

Why have the negotiations at Blair House met with such difficulties that they necessitated recalling the two negotiating delegations and led to halting the negotiations and to a gathering of clouds in the sky of the peace negotiations?

The answer, in my opinion, is not difficult.

Any negotiations between two parties are bound to meet with differing views here and there. When two parties sit together to negotiate after 30 years of hatred, animosity and wars it is inevitable that differences between them will be deep and will be surrounded by doubts and mistrust.

In order for the two sides to reach the end of the tunnel and for their views to come closer, two basic factors are needed:

First, sincere will and earnest desire to reach understanding and agreement.

Second, acceptance of the rights of others as long as they are compatible with logic, reality and the law.

On the basis of this concept and in the light of this logic we can draw up a picture of the negotiations between us and Israel and throw light on the reason why they are faltering.

Before going into detail we must take several factors into consideration, so that we will be able to understand the difficulties hindering agreement with Israel on the establishment of peace.

Foremost of these considerations are:

First, President Anwar as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem last year was certainly a stunning surprise for Israel--a surprise that it did not expect, that had never crossed its mind. All Israel's past calculations failed to take such a visit into account and took no precautions against the risks of such a visit for Israel.

Second, Israel is incapable to this day of giving up all the gains of the 1967 Israeli invasion and still insists on reaping its fruits despite rejection by the whole world.

Third, President as-Sadat's peace initiative has set in motion winds of change in U.S. policy--something which Israel did not forsee or expect to happen in this manner.

These three factors are the secret behind the obstacles which Israel is placing before the talks. Since the first day of the initiative Israel has tried to secure for itself the opportunity to get out of the predicament in which President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem has put it. Its preliminary and automatic reaction was the plan which Menahem Begin brought with him to Ismailia, which he called the self-rule plan for the West Bank and Gaza.

The subsequent developments which led us to the Blair House talks are well known.

Matters at the talks followed a natural course as in any other negotiations, until the problem known as "linkage" appeared on the horizon and threatened--and is still threatening--to halt the talks.

Therefore, is the problem of linkage the real and actual reason for the stoppage of talks and the return of the Egyptian delegation to Cairo and the Israeli delegation to Tel Aviv?

In my opinion there is more to the matter than that. The principal problem is that Israel is striving to sign a separate agreement with Egypt, while Egypt refuses. Such an agreement was not Egypt's objective and demand when President as-Sadat visited Jerusalem. Egypt has made it clear from the first moment that its objective is a comprehensive solution.

Israel is refusing to reach a comprehensive solution; it is using the question of linkage as an apparent excuse for such rejection. Its excuse for rejecting linkage is that if it is stipulated in the treaty and the Palestinians fail to shoulder their responsibilities in regard to the establishment of self-rule then Israel will be accused of obstructing the treaty, and in that case Egypt will be prompted not to honor its obligations under the treaty.

In reply to this point we would say that the Palestinians are bound to shoulder their responsibility in implementing the steps to establish their own state, but only when Israel signs the treaty incorporating linkage and when they themselves see that Israel is serious about the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza sector.

Two days ago PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with Democratic Congressman Paul Findley and told him that the PLO is prepared to recognize Israel, coexist with it and stop all hostile operations against it when it becomes certain that a Palestinian state will be established in the West Bank and Gaza.

Consequently, Israel's fears become absolutely groundless, and its only aim is then to prevent the establishment of Palestinian self-rule.

This is not the only reason Israel is creating difficulties. The Camp David agreement contains a provision that, following the signing of the peace treaty, the Israeli military administration of the West Bank and the Gaza sector will end and all Palestinians held in Israeli prisons will be released.

Israel wants the provision in the peace agreement to stipulate the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the West Bank and Gaza and not--as stated in the Camp David agreement--the ending of Israeli military rule.

Not only this; the Camp David agreement provides for the establishment of Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank, including the handing over of all security and civilian authorities to the Palestinians. Nevertheless, Israel demands that the treaty provide for the establishment of an executive administrative council.

It is natural that Egypt should object to all these demands, which mean that Israel is going back on what was agreed on at the Camp David talks--to which Begin personally put his signature. It also means that all Israel cares for is to sign a separate agreement with Egypt.

When Egypt objects, Israel counters by saying that it is prepared to include in the treaty a provision stipulating that the talks on the West Bank and Gaza will begin 1 month after the Egyptian-Israeli agreement is signed.

When Egypt asks: If you were really serious about implementing the Camp David agreement, why should the agreement not incorporate a specific provision defining the path we will take and the steps to be taken one by one, it will find no clear or logical answer from Israel.

Moreover, Israel is demanding special preferential treatment by Egypt. This was one of the points which the Israeli leaders stressed during their talks with the U.S. Senate delegation which visited Israel and later came to Egypt to convey to President as-Sadat Israel's desire for such preferential treatment.

President as-Sadat's view has been that, when Egypt signs a treaty with Israel or with any other state, it always honors its signature like any civilized country but that, at the same time, it is part of the Arab nation and its relations with the Arab countries--despite the apparent differences of views--are based on its historic responsibility toward the Arab nation as the eldest sister among them all. Therefore, Israel's demand for "preferential" treatment is a kind of demand for more, which creates problems and cast doubt on peace.

All the U.S. senators agreed with President as-Sadat's views, despite the fact that the delegation included Senators Jacob Javits and Jackson who are among the greatest supporters of Israel in the U.S. Senate.

An American friend of mine who visited Egypt a few days ago told me that he had heard Senator Javits saying, verbatim: "I refused to approve the U.S. aircraft deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia. I regret that refusal, and in the future I will approve any arms deal the United States makes with Egypt."

I do not think it necessary to explain Senator Javits' need to say such a thing. All that I say is that it is an indication of the winds of change that are blowing in U.S. policy--winds that have made even the strongest supporters of Israel agree with a viewpoint opposed to the Israeli viewpoint.

There remains an important question: Where do we stand now, what is Egypt's attitude and what is Israel's attitude?

Before answering this question we must say that reaching a peace agreement with Israel does not depend on making concessions here and there or on bringing pressure to bear on this or that side. The matter does not need concessions or pressures. Rather it needs reason, logic, and a sincere desire for the achievement of peace. The elements of peace do exist and are available and clear, and all they need is courage for peace to become a reality.

Egypt has the courage but Israel has not. This is proved by the fact that it is trying to go back on what was signed at Camp David, now that it feels that peace is not longer illusory.

As for Egypt, it is no secret that it does not want a separate solution. It has accepted a great deal with regard to the evacuation of Sinai in return for Israel's agreement to solve the Palestinian problem.

Israel's basic concern is to sign a peace treaty with Egypt and leave the solution of the Palestinian problem to circumstances in the hope that Arab differences, the attitude of the rejection states and the disputes within the PLO will enable it to water down the Palestinian problem or solve it in accordance with Israel's self-rule plan, which Menahem Begin prepared and which Egypt rejected at the Ismailia meeting last December. Therefore Israel does not wish to link the Sinai agreement and the agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza sector together and refuses to sign a timetable for the implementation of the self-rule agreed on at Camp David.

Here the question could arise of the U.S. attitude to the problems facing the negotiations.

Certainly the United States fully agrees with the Egyptian viewpoint and is striving to reach a comprehensive solution that would decisively end the conflict. But the United States is making endeavors as a full partner in the negotiations while assuming good will on the part of Israel as well as respect for its obligations, so that there is no need for such obligations to be put on paper. At the same time it fully appreciates the Egyptian viewpoint and is trying to find the formula that will meet Egypt's demand and remove Israel's fears.

It is also certain that President Jimmy Carter is being very careful not let the gains achieved at Camp David be lost as a result of the nervous Israeli attitude. President Carter is confident that U.S. public opinion stands with him and supports all the steps he is taking to reach a comprehensive solution to the problem.

Whether the negotiations continue or stop there is a fact that cannot be ignored: peace is undoubtedly coming.

This fact has emerged and imposed itself in the wake of President as-Sadat's declaration that he is ready to go to Israel. All that is required now is some patience and calm nerves. We are in no hurry and we are not convulsive as some others. We have defined our stand and drawn up our line within the framework of logic, right and justice.

AL-AHRAM OUTLINES VIEWS ON TREATY AMENDMENTS

NC0709022 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0805 GMT 7 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 December--AL-AHRAM says today that there are several alternatives regarding the major amendments which Egypt believes should be introduced to the Egyptian-Israeli draft treaty. These alternatives are:

1. Adding these amendments to the draft which has been submitted to the two sides and which, Egypt has always said, is not a final draft and cannot even be considered a U.S. draft, as each sides submits a draft believed by it to be suitable. The aim being to arrive at a final draft acceptable to both sides. Egypt has objected to certain provisions and requested the introduction of the amendments which it has submitted.

2. Exchanging letters that would have the force of the treaty, regarding the major points of disagreement, to be signed by Egypt and Israel as well as by the United States as a guarantee of implementation.

It is clear that so far the major points of disagreement are:

A. Linking the implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the setting up of self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza by setting specific dates for the assumption of self-rule by the people of the West Bank and Gaza, and by defining the powers of the new councils so that these councils may take the place of the military government and not just be municipal councils.

B. Regarding the security measures listed in article 4 of the draft agreement which divide Sinai into three areas and stipulate that withdrawal from the first area shall be completed in a period not exceeding 9 months, Egypt believes that the security arrangements mentioned in this article cannot last forever because the two sides could enter into negotiations in this connection whenever one of the sides wishes to do so.

C. Regarding the Egyptian commitments related to article 6 of the draft agreement, Egypt believes that there is absolutely no need for the second passage of the draft and that the fifth passage must not impose on us any precedence because Egypt believes that when there is real peace there is no possibility of war.

Dr Mustafa Khalil has said that the request was made for the introduction of these amendments so that the articles of the treaty will be clear with no room for disagreement afterwards, and so that the implementation of the agreement will proceed with goodwill and sincerity as both sides are after real peace. Egypt also rejects any separate settlement.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH AL-MINYA OFFICIALS, PARTY LEADERS

NC062145Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat this evening met in Al-Minya with the members of the People's Assembly and National Democratic Party officials in the governorate. The meeting was attended by Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, and deputy prime minister and the party secretary general, the ministers accompanying the president, and Al-Minya governor, Faruq 'Afifi.

The president spoke at this meeting about the political conditions in Egypt before and after the revolution. He said that authority has moved to the broad base of the people through their representatives in the People's Assembly.

The president announced that at the beginning of January a republican decree will be issued transferring all the authorities of the president of the republic to the governors. This will result in the local authorities in each governorate shouldering big responsibilities. The president said that work will be coordinated between the executive and popular authorities in the governorate through a monthly meeting to be held by these authorities.

At the end of the meeting President as-Sadat replied to the questions of those present.

OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES OIL PRICES, OPEC, DOLLAR

JN061343Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 December--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and oil minister, has declared that Iraq will support OPEC regarding the minimum need to rectify oil prices so as to preserve OPEC's unity and protect its existence.

In a press statement published here today by the weekly magazine ALIF BA', 'Abd al-Karim said that all OPEC members are in agreement on the principles of rectifying oil prices to contain the double-edged international inflation represented in the prices of commodities and services exported to the OPEC countries and in the drop of the value of the dollar compared to other currencies.

'Abd al-Karim denounced the maneuvers by U.S. imperialism against the OPEC countries--maneuvers such as the visit of U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal to some OPEC countries and the attempts to artificially raise the value of the dollar. This constitutes blatant interference in OPEC's affairs.

Speaking about Iraq's stand toward the rise in prices of commodities and services imported by the OPEC states from the Western industrial countries, 'Abd al-Karim said that Iraq maintains its stand calling for taking measures that will guarantee compensation to the oil-exporting countries for the enormous losses they are suffering as a result of the inflation imported from the industrial countries.

'Abd al-Karim explained that the prices of the OPEC countries' imports had risen from an average index of 100 in 1973 to 320 in the first half of this year, that is, by 320 percent.

'Abd al-Karim said: Naturally, this has led to a drop in the real value of a barrel of oil exported by the OPEC countries to some $4 or less compared to the official price of $12.70 for one barrel of light oil.

'Abd al-Karim said that in Iraq's opinion, if we want to deal with this serious deterioration of the purchasing power of the revenues of the oil-exporting countries, oil prices must be raised to the required level to restore the balance of trade between OPEC countries and industrial countries. Furthermore, a practical formula must be adopted to assess the prices of crude oil in the future by linking the level of these prices to the inflationary rises in prices of imports of the OPEC countries from the industrial countries.

Concerning Iraq's stand toward the plot of dropping the value of the dollar and its relationship to the economies of the OPEC countries, and on the stand of the United States in particular and of the other Western countries in general, the Iraqi oil minister pointed out that the acute deterioration in the dollar's exchange rate in money markets against the main currencies is not an emergency situation but part of a plan aimed at further draining OPEC's oil revenues through cheap purchases to serve the economy of the capitalist world.

The oil minister stressed that all political and economic indications support this view. The United States is encouraging and not just watching--as certain people imagine--the fall of its currency which is used as a monetary standard for pricing oil. He pointed out that the fall of the dollar from the end of 1976 until now is no less than 22 percent against the main currencies.

The oil minister said that from this drop in the dollar's value one can clearly see the extent of the loss the OPEC countries are suffering.

Thus it is also clear how much crude oil prices must be increased to rectify this situation. The minister went to say: If we add to this the OPEC countries' losses as a result of the inflated prices of their imports, we can say that the real value of a barrel of oil does not exceed $4, that is, less than one-third of the official price of $12.70. This means that we are losing two-thirds of our revenues.

The oil minister said that Iraq realizes the serious implications of the problem caused by the fall of the dollar since 1974. Iraq stresses the need to take action to find a proper formula to compensate for the losses the OPEC countries are sustaining. He further said: Despite the fact that certain OPEC countries are still opposed to taking any measures in this respect due to many considerations, Iraq is confident that the acute fall of the dollar over the past few months has reached a point where it is now difficult to remain silent. He said that this is what prompts us to be optimistic about the possibility of reaching a fruitful agreement at the coming OPEC ministerial meeting. He said that the Iraqi delegation to the meeting will support any proposals to solve the dollar problem--proposals such as linking the dollar to a basket of currencies or any other formula that will lessen its fall. He said that there is no economic reason preventing the adoption of alternatives to the dollar.

TEXT OF SYRIAN-IRAQI JOINT VOCATIONAL ACTION FRAMEWORK

JN062128Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 December--At the end of the talks between Ghanim 'Abd al-Jalil, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member, and Yusuf al-As'ad, member of the political leadership in Syria, a group of joint unified cooperation formulas between the vocational and popular organizations in the two countries were issued today.

The following is the text of the general framework of joint vocational and national action between the vocational and popular organizations in the two fraternal countries of Syria and Iraq:

The Joint National Action Charter between the two fraternal countries of Iraq and Syria comes in response to the pan-Arab and historic responsibility to mobilize all resources and deploy all potentials necessary to entrench the principles of the charter, and to strengthen the struggling course and translate it on the executive level in a manner that will guarantee the achievement of the masses' aspirations to build Arab unity and wreck the Zionist-imperialist designs, due to the significant and effective role of the popular and vocational organizations in the two fraternal countries in expressing the role of these masses and their hopes in unity, it is imperative for the vocational and popular action formula between the two countries to assume a new dimension commensurate with the nature of changes proposed by the principles stipulated in the charter so that these principles can serve as a guide for the masses when practicing their national and vocational activities on the regional, pan-Arab and international levels.

On the Level of Bilateral Relations

A. Organizational aspects:

1. To exchange visits and organize joint meetings on all popular and vocational levels and on the levels of central councils, executive bureaus, and administrative bodies.

2. To work to deepen the vigilance of the trade unions and to strengthen the two sides' relations by utilizing their experience, organizing joint sessions of the trade unions cadres, exchanging delegations, participating in training camps, setting up seminars and exchanging scholarships.

3. To exchange the vocational and trade union publications.

4. To unify the laws and regulations of the professions in similar vocational and popular organizations. Also, to unify the rules and bylaws of these organizations so as to achieve the unity of these regulations and laws.

5. To participate with the authorized institutions to unify the bodies in the two countries which handle the special fields and activities of the concerned vocational or popular organizations.

B. Social and athletic aspects:

1. To organize tours inside the two countries for members of the popular and vocational organizations, and to organize joint tours for members of these organizations to other countries.

2. To exchange cultural and sports activities in the various fields with the aim of creating a common social atmosphere.

C. Scientific aspects:

1. To hold joint scientific seminars for all specializations.

2. To exchange scientific publications.

On the National Level

1. To support the Arab popular and vocational federations, to preserve and consolidate their unity, to develop their popular and vocational role in the service of the aims of the Arab revolution movement, and to contain attempts aimed at splitting and foiling their unity.

2. To coordinate the various fields of activities of the Arab federations such as conferences and meetings through the unification of the political stands on proposed issues, thus proceeding from the principles and policies explained in the Joint National Action Charter between the two countries and the resolutions of the Arab summit conference held in Baghdad. This is in addition to the unification of stands in the vocational fields of these federations, and to supplying the suitable atmospheres for their work and activities.

On the International Level

1. To work to unify the joint stands at international meetings and conferences in such a manner that serves the achievement of the national strategy.

2. To coordinate stands regarding the choice of the leading cadres of the world organizations and their appropriate branches.

3. To hold joint international conferences of solidarity with the Arab people in their fateful issues.

In order to achieve all that has been mentioned, it is extremely important to follow up the implementation of these proposals with the aim of drawing up joint action plans for the popular and vocational organizations in the two countries as a prelude for their complete unity.

Issued in Baghdad on 6 December 1978.

ATH-THAWRAH HITS U.S. MONETARY, OIL-PRICE POLICIES

LD051247Y Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 26 Nov 78 p 2 LD

[By Harbi Muhammad]

[Text] At the press conference U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal held in Kuwait he was asked his opinion regarding what is being said about the dollar's decline being deliberately aimed at increasing sales of U.S. goods and stockpiling large quantities of oil at low prices. He said that this interpretation is "absolute nonsense."

The question here is: If the decline of the dollar was not deliberate and the United States did not reap from it vast profits and great political, economic and strategic benefits, why is the U.S. Government still procrastinating over taking the necessary and suitable measures to strengthen the dollar? We would like to ask Mr Blumenthal why President Jimmy Carter went back on his promises to the conference of capitalist countries in Bonn to take such measures?

Why does the U.S. Government step up its statements and its activities in the Arabian Gulf and elsewhere prior to every meeting by the OPEC countries to consider adjusting oil prices and go on giving assurances that it will take the necessary measures to strengthen the dollar?

If Mr Blumenthal is afraid or rather feels embarrassed to answer such legitimate questions, then we will do so on his behalf.

The U.S. Treasury secretary knows better than anybody else that the new American game--meaning allowing the dollar to fall or rise in particular circumstances--has been exposed to all, especially to experts from the OPEC countries. The new American game has achieved a number of "good" results for the United States, foremost of which is to weaken the purchasing power of the OPEC states and, consequently, upset their development plans, prevent the financing of some major projects, weaken OPEC's economic power and hamper its plans to assist some of the developing countries which are in dire need of investments.

The American game has been the direct and principal reason for the increase in the Third World's debts, which in 1976 reached more than $250 billion, U.S. banks and institutes having the lion's share.

The American game has turned some of the OPEC states from countries giving loans into countries obtaining loans at high interest rates. The American game has also made U.S. exports more competitive with Japanese and European exports and attracted to the United States large capital from West Europe and Japan. It also caused heavy losses to OPEC and Arab investments abroad, in addition to OPEC's loss of $16 billion annually.

Carter has sent U.S. ambassadors and envoys to deliver messages to the Gulf rulers expressing concern over the inclination by some OPEC countries to increase oil prices, promising that the United States will take measures to curb the rate of international inflation of these countries.

We would like to remind the U.S. President that he gave such a promise prior to the OPEC conference meeting in Caracas in 1977. Why has he forgotten that promise?

Apparently U.S. officials are apt at making promises and then evading honoring them. OPEC has only to take seriously the interests of its own people and their need for progress. Caring for its own interests can never be achieved through submission to the American game which only makes the Americans richer and the Third World and OPEC countries poorer and more bankrupt.

UN REPRESENTATIVE CALLS FOR RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE

JN061919Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Dr Hazim Nusaybah, Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations, has stated that settlement of the Middle East conflict should be achieved within the UN framework and according to UN resolutions.

Dr. Nusaybah called for resumption of the Geneva Middle East peace conference. Speaking before the UN General Assembly last evening, Dr Nusaybah criticized article 6 of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, which stipulates that this treaty should take precedence over all agreements between Egypt and any other country.

MORE ON VISIT OF LEBANESE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES OFFICIAL

Received by Prime Minister

JN070843Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] In his office this morning, Prime Minister Mudar Badran received Dr Amin al-Hafiz, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, who is currently visiting Jordan.

Talks With NCC Chairman

JN061109Y Amman JNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 6 December--Ahmad al-Lawzi, chairman of the National Consultative Council [NCC], received Dr Amin al-Hafiz, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies today.

During the meeting, they discussed prospects of cooperation between the two assemblies in various parliamentary matters on both the Arab and international levels, with the aim of serving the Arab nation and its issues in general, and the Palestine issue in particular. They also discussed the current Arab situation.

Chairman al-Lawzi explained to Dr al-Hafiz the circumstances that prompted establishment of the NCC and the nature of the NCC's work.

UNRWA EMPLOYEES IN JORDAN, OTHER COUNTRIES STAGE STRIKE

JN070828Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Dec 78 pp 1, 12 JN

[Excerpts] Amman--Employees of the various divisions of UNRWA staged a strike yesterday morning. Activity at the work, teaching and services sectors came to a halt for 2 hours in all host countries of the Palestinian refugees. A delegation representing the three UNRWA divisions met with Jordanian Ministry of Reconstruction and Development Under Secretary 'Abd ar-Rahim Jarar and acquainted him with the developments involving their situation.

The strike was staged from 0800 until 1000, and it was binding on all UNRWA employees in Amman, Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, Damascus, Beirut and Vienna.

U.S. CALLED UPON TO ALTER PATH OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

JN062017Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] The Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, going on for more than a year under U.S. supervision, have failed to reach agreement on signing the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. The suspension of the Blair House talks about a month ago, the resorting to an exchange of secret letters between Cairo and Tel Aviv, and the delegation of envoys from Egypt to the United States and from the United States to the capitals concerned with the Middle East dispute have all led to a new U.S. initiative to be undertaken by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance next week.

Although the task of President Carter's envoy Senator Robert Byrd to the capitals of the Middle East was of a comprehensive nature, Vance's task will be confined to visiting Egypt and Israel at a time when news reports from Washington are saying that the United States will ask Israel to consent to Egypt's demands for a change in the article on preferences in the Camp David agreements, in return for a more flexible timetable on the elections for the autonomous administrative rule in the occupied Arab territories.

Thus, it becomes obvious that the United States is working in two parallel directions. One direction is toward saving the Blair House negotiations, so that they will eventually lead to conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty; the other is the direction of convincing the Arab states concerned with the Middle East dispute of the merits of the Camp David accords, as a prelude for the forthcoming state of negotiations following the signing of the treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

Judging by Senator Byrd's statement, it seems that the U.S. administration is committed to comprehensively settling the region's dispute on the condition that the Arabs agree to the Camp David accords. To agree to this would lead to disregard for the Arab unanimity at the ninth Arab summit conference, on one hand, and to an increase of sharp divisions throughout the Arab region on the other.

We hope that the United States will realize, as we do, that weakening the Arabs by disrupting their ranks will not be conducive to a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Likewise, running away from the intransigent Israeli stands and seeking further Arab concessions will not be conducive to the comprehensive settlement to which the U.S. administration is committed.

It will also not be conducive to peace if Israel dreams of imposing the policy of fait accompli and if Washington continues to support this dream by strengthening its military forces and refusing to confront Israel with the requisites of a comprehensive peace and the basic principles approved by the international community for such a peace.

The United States is called on to play the role of a full partner in the negotiations, to attain a just peace and a comprehensive settlement, but not on the basis of the Camp David accords, which deliberately overlook the basic principles on which a Middle East settlement should be based. Today, the U.S. administration is more capable than ever of announcing that the partial negotiations have reached an impasse, after more than a year of continuous effort, because Israel has no desire for real peace, and because of Israel's intransigent stands based on imposing the peace of a fait accompli on the Arab world.

The U.S. administration has a golden opportunity to rectify the path of the peace negotiations in a way that will lead to a comprehensive settlement. The U.S. administration can do this if it is honest and sincere in its commitment to achieve this settlement.

UNITED STATES URGED TO INITIATE DIALOG WITH PLO

JN070905Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Dec 78 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "The United States and the PLO"]

[Text] Perhaps it is time to say a frank word about the U.S. rejection of beginning a dialog with the PLO. This rejection was consecrated by Dr Kissinger in the secret agreement he concluded with Israel on the eve of the conclusion of the second Sinai disengagement agreement.

This stand cannot be justified from a logical or realistic point of view, because, in its efforts to reach a settlement, the United States has evaded dealing with a major side involved in the issue, regardless of how the United States feels about that side.

Therefore, we can say that Washington's rejection of a dialog with the PLO is a hiatus in the efforts that the United States is making with the sides involved in the Arab-Israeli dispute. This gap cannot be justified by the pledge that Kissinger made, because this pledge is now outdated and constitutes a real obstacle to reaching a solution for the Palestinian issue.

Needless to say, the United States has overlooked several pledges in its international relations that proved to be outdated, such as the U.S. pledge to the Government of Formosa to keep it the occupant of China's seat in the Security Council.

Furthermore, the United States has overlooked UN Security Council Resolution 242 to jump to the Camp David agreements, although this UN resolution is not outdated. Hence, if the United States is sincere in its efforts, it can overlook the Kissinger pledge to Israel and take the initiative of entering into a dialog with the PLO.

It is astonishing that, at a time when Washington is urging certain Arab sides to participate in negotiations with Israel--which occupies the land, does not recognize the existence of the Palestinian people, and denies the rights of the Palestinian people to their land and self-determination--we find Washington eschewing a dialog with the PLO. This is a paradox that the United States might find difficult to justify.

The U.S. stand toward the PLO is a stand of appeasement to Israel. It is not objective at all, and it undoubtedly obstructs efforts to establish a real peace in the area. Perhaps Washington should go over its calculations on realistic bases and take the initiative to engage in a dialog with the PLO, because the appeasement of Israel on this question is a matter that is now outdated.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS' CREDENTIALS--Amman, 6 December--His Majesty King Husayn received at Raghadan Palace at noon today the credentials of Algerian Ambassador to the Royal Hashemite Court Ahmed Laili, Japanese Ambassador (Fumia Okada) and Netherlands Ambassador (August Haikenth Crowen). [Amman JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN]

PHOSPHATES TO YUGOSLAVIA--Amman, 6 December--Yugoslavia has agreed in principle to increase its imports of Jordanian phosphates to 150,000 tons a year. Yugoslavia's imports of Jordanian phosphates for this year are estimated at some 100,000 tons. [Amman JNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN]

CABINET CONCLUDES MEETING; SARKIS QUOTED ON RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

NC061340Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] The cabinet meeting ended a short while ago. After the meeting, cabinet Secretary General Dr 'Umar al-Musayki made the following official statement:

At the beginning of the meeting, President Sarkis briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the talks he and his delegation had with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and French officials during their working visit to France last week.

The president said he is satisfied with the positive atmosphere of understanding at the talks, which dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the region as well as with bilateral relations between the two countries which are based on mutual confidence and respect. His excellency said that the strength of these relations lies in the fact that France is well-informed about the struggles taking place in Lebanon. This stems from France's understanding of Lebanon's role in this part of the world and from the traditional friendship which binds Lebanon with France.

The president said that he sensed France's sincere feelings toward all the Lebanese in view of the difficulties which they are facing. He sensed also France's willingness to give any assistance which might ease the implementation of solutions to the Lebanese crisis in keeping with Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and the unity of its people and territories. The president said that, at this stage, the visit accomplished the anticipated results. After reviewing the outcome of this visit, the cabinet studied the outcome of the working meeting which was held between the president, the prime minister and the Arab follow-up committee which is participating in the implementation of the Bayt ad-Din Conference resolutions. Later, the cabinet discussed the general situation in Lebanon, particularly the economic and administrative situation as well as the work of the Supreme Relief Authority. The cabinet also discussed a number of formalities and issues and approved them.

Prime Minister Comments

NC061342Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Following today's cabinet meeting, prime minister Salim al-Huss said that discussions dealt with the situation in the south in the light of the information available on the situation there, and in view of the current contacts based on the report submitted by the Security Council's secretary general to the United Nations about the situation in southern Lebanon.

UN-PALESTINIAN CLASH REPORTED IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC070707Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 7 Dec 78 NC

[Text] The UNIFIL commander in southern Lebanon, General Erskine, has expressed surprise at what he called the present uproar about the building of an airport in Al-Khiyam. After an inspection tour of the area, he said that this airport is a plain that has been covered by shrubs and trees for about 40 years. He added that he has not seen there any equipment that would indicate intention to build an airport there.

Meanwhile, inhabitants of the south have reported that UNIFIL forces clashed with Palestinian gunmen in the western sector in the south when the UNIFIL forces tried to prevent Palestinian infiltrators from entering the UNIFIL area of operation.

It has also been reported that these Palestinian gunmen come from a number of Palestinian organizations.

UNIFIL Commander Makes Statement

NC070650Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 Dec 78 NC

[Text] The UN Security Council will convene this afternoon to discuss the mission of the UN forces in southern Lebanon and the obstacles facing them. The meeting will be preceded by consultations among the council members. Similar consultations were held yesterday.

UNIFIL Commander Gen Emanuel Erskine has said that the states contributing to the UNIFIL are willing to agree to the extension of the mandate of their forces, which expires on 18 January, for another 6 months.

After an inspection tour of southern Lebanon, General Erskine said extensive contacts are now underway with various interested parties to enable the deployment of UN forces all along the Lebanese-Israeli borders. General Erskine spoke of some difficulties standing in the way of such a move.

He said that the UNIFIL task is to restore the sovereignty of the Lebanese State over the southern part of its territory down to the border with Israel.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS CONTINUED SNIPING 7 DEC

NC070645Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 7 Dec 78 NC

[Text] There was sniping this morning in the southern suburb especially in the areas of At-Tahwitah and the Chevrolet. There was sporadic shooting in Al-Burj and Ad-Dabbas areas.

Heavy sniper fire was directed at 'Ayn ar-Rummanah from Galerie Sim'an. As a result one person, Samir Karam, was wounded. He was taken to hospital.

SYRIAN-IRAQI POLITICAL COMMITTEE ENDS MEETINGS

Al-Asad Receives Committee

JN0614407 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1310 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 6 Dec--At 1300 today President Hafiz al-Asad received the members of the Political, Information and Cultural Affairs Committee of the higher political committee of the Syrian-Iraqi Joint Charter for National Action.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, and Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad attended on the Syrian side, while Tariq 'Aziz, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, Sa'd Qasim Hammudi attended on the Iraqi side.

The meeting was also attended by Walid Mahmud, Iraqi ambassador in Damascus. The members of the committee acquainted the president with the results of their current meetings in Damascus. The committee members attended luncheon held by President al-Asad in their honor.

Agreements Signed

JN0621217 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] The Syrian-Iraqi Political, Cultural and Information Affairs Committee of the higher political committee of the Joint Charter for National Action concluded its work in Damascus this evening by signing information and cultural agreements. The committee held a total of six meetings. The agreement were signed for Syria by Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad and for Iraq by Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi. Another agreement was also signed on cooperation between the news agencies of the two countries. It was signed for Syria by Dr Sabir Falhut, director general of SANA, and for Iraq by Muhammad Manaf Yasin, director general of INA. In the information field, this agreement provides for the exchange of news and information between the two fraternal countries. This includes the economic, political, cultural and social spheres. The information agreement covers all information agencies and communications means in Syria and Iraq--radio and television, news agencies, publishing houses and press foundations. According to the above agreement, coordination and unification of foreign information will be achieved, joint training courses held, and information action unified. The agreement on the news agencies stipulates the exchange of expertise and information as well as cooperation regarding news transmission, the exchange of news editors and coordination among the two agencies' offices abroad.

The cultural agreement provides for the formulation of annual programs to achieve coordination and integration among the two countries' cultural institutions, particularly in the field of writing, publishing, Arab heritage, the exchange of publications and strengthening relations among national libraries by various means. The agreement also covers cooperation in the field of antiquities; historical and cultural museums; the exchange of experts, specialists, researchers and archaeological missions; and the exchange of film and theater specialists.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, delivered a speech on the occasion. Khaddam said that the Political, Cultural and Information Affairs Committee held a series of meetings during which it discussed a number of topics in accordance with the directives of the Joint Charter for National Action between the two fraternal countries.

An agreement on information and cultural cooperation was signed. Khaddam added that coordination between the two countries' foreign ministries and unification of their structures and working methods was also agreed upon.

Khaddam added that the committee also assessed all aspects of the general political situation and said that viewpoints were identical on all topics discussed. Khaddam said that the committee will hold its next meeting in Baghdad during the last week of this month to prepare for the meeting of the higher political committee.

On the progress of work by the various committees, Khaddam said that they are working seriously on a platform on which unionist relations between the two countries will be based. He said that these committees will complete their tasks smoothly because the two sides are proceeding from a common background, one decision and one will.

Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member in fraternal Iraq, also delivered a speech on this on this occasion. He said that Comrade 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam had presented an adequate summary of what had been achieved so far by the Political, Cultural and Information Affairs Committee. He added that Khaddam had also pointed out the steps achieved by the other committees stemming from the Joint Charter for National Action. He said these are very good steps and will quickly lead to the objective outlined by the leaders of the two countries. 'Aziz added: We are fully satisfied with what has been achieved by our committee. We can say in the name of our brother members on the other committees that we are satisfied with their work. This work is being carried out in a spirit of comradeship and there is a cordial atmosphere and serious determination to achieve comprehensive agreement on all topics listed on the committees' agenda. 'Aziz added: We believe that we will continue in this way during the coming days to achieve further measures along the road to the unionist objectives outlined by the Joint Charter National Action between fraternal Iraq and Syria.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES BULGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL

JN062022Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi received at 1300 today Milko Tarabanov, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian National Assembly, and the delegation accompanying him on their visit to Syria.

At the beginning of the meeting, the two sides reviewed the close ties between Syria and Bulgaria and the means to strengthen these ties in future.

The guest praised Syria's honorable stands under President Hafiz al-Asad toward the current Arab and international issues. He also praised the great gains Syria has made in all domains.

The prime minister thanked the guest for his friendly feelings and expressed his appreciation for Bulgaria's sincere stand toward the Arabs and Arab rights. The prime minister wished continued progress and success for the relations between the two countries.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE'S STATE OF HEALTH 'STATIONARY'

LD061930Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] We have learned from a medical source this evening that the state of health of President Houari Boumediene, president of the republic and of the Council of the Revolution, remains stationary, and that treatment is continuing normally.

ALGIERS REPORTS ZHIVKOV MESSAGE TO BOUMEDIENE

LD022110Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Messages of sympathy are coming in from the outside. Todor Zhivkov, president of the Council of State of Bulgarian People's Republic, has sent a message of sympathy to President Boumediene, in which he writes:

On behalf of the Council of State and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and of the Bulgarian people and on my own behalf, we sincerely and heartily wish you a rapid recovery and a prompt and total reestablishment of your [word indistinct] so that you may successfully continue your highly responsible mission for the well being of the friendly Algerian people and the prosperity of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

We esteem highly your contribution to the development of fruitful cooperation between the Bulgarian People's Republic and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and we express the certainty that this will continue to develop and deepen in the interest of our peoples, of the common struggle against colonialism and imperialism and of the consolidation of peace in the world.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES TRADE UNION DELEGATION

LD061906Y Tripoli JANA in English 1638 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 6, JANA--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1st of September revolution and secretary-general of the General People's Congress, last night met members of the production workers trade union.

During this meeting Colonel al-Qadhdhafi urged the union to encourage production workers to seize power over establishments, firms and production centres in order to liberate themselves from the slavery of being hired hands and to implement the dictum: "partners and not hired hands."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi explained that this sacred move by the production workers of the Jamahiriyah is a victory of freedom which brings happiness to mankind. This will enable oppressed production workers to regain their rights and to acquire a respectable place in the new socialist society.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi pointed out that not only would this sacred move benefit the production sector but also all classes of people whose interests are linked directly or indirectly with the production sector.

This sector contributes to improving the production process and in building a society where prosperity and equality prevail after having liberated themselves from the control and exploitation of the private sector and the bureaucracy of the public one.

TANZANIAN, UGANDAN OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS IN LIBYA

LD051316Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Mohamed Ali Foum, Tanzanian deputy foreign minister, will arrive in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Jamahiriyah within the framework of the efforts by the Jamahiriyah to solve the dispute between Uganda and Tanzania.

Lt Col (Bairl), under secretary of the Ugandan Foreign Ministry, arrived in Tripoli yesterday on a visit to the Jamahiriyah within the framework of these efforts.

It is recalled that the Jamahiriyah is continuing its serious efforts to reach a solution for the dispute between the two sister countries, Tanzania and Uganda, out of its conviction of the Africans' capability to solve their own problems without outside interference or trusteeship and its confidence that African wisdom can take the initiative from the enemies of the continent, which needs to direct all its capabilities against its racist enemies, who are backed by colonialism.

These efforts are manifested in a number of cables sent by brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Presidents Julius Nyerere and Idi Amin, and the visit of brother Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy, secretary of information and culture, as a personal envoy of the brother colonel to these sister countries.

JABLONSKI STOPS OVER IN LIBYA WHILE RETURNING HOME

LD060950Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Henryk Jablonski, secretary general of the Polish United Workers' Party and chairman of Council of State, this evening made a stopover in Benghazi on his return to his country. The Polish leader expressed his happiness at the welcome accorded to him for the second time during his transit through the Jamahiriyah, saying: Please convey my warm greetings to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, for whom our people harbor much esteem and affection. He stressed the need to strengthen friendship and cooperation in order to bolster relations between the two friendly countries.

After a rest Jablonski went into the town of Benghazi. He is on his way back to Poland after visiting a number of African states.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES HUSAYN ENVOY, MESSAGE

LD061800Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, today received brother 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Jordanian Royal Court and King Husayn's personal envoy to the brother colonel. Brother 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf conveyed to the brother colonel a message from King Husayn connected with the development of relations between Jordan and the Palestinians.

'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Jordanian Court, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. In a statement to a JANA correspondent, 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf expressed his pleasure at visiting the Jamahiriyah and said: I am carrying a message from King Husayn to brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi connected with the current Arab situation and the means of strengthening Arab resistance and the consolidation of relations among the Arab countries on a fraternal basis in light of the resolutions of the Baghdad conference and in a spirit of sublime pan-Arab interest.

MOROCCO

TALKS BEGIN WITH SOVIET FISH INDUSTRY MINISTER

LD061752Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Text] This morning at government headquarters Prime Minister Ahmad Osman received Soviet Fish Industry Minister Ishkov, who is currently on an official visit to Morocco.

The Soviet minister made a statement to the press, in which he stressed the development of good relations between Morocco and the Soviet Union and the existing cooperation between the two countries, especially in sea fishing. Mr Ishkov took this opportunity to refer to the agreement signed between the two countries in this sphere and to the efforts currently being exerted to enhance the prospects for Soviet-Moroccan cooperation. This meeting was attended by Abdelkamel Raghaye, minister of commerce and industry, and the Soviet ambassador delegated to Rabat.

Previously the Soviet minister had held talks with Finance Minister Abdellatif Ghissassi, during which the two sides reviewed current relations between the two countries and the numerous spheres in which increasing Moroccan-Soviet cooperation is manifested. It is noteworthy that since 1977 the Soviet Union has become Morocco's eighth largest customer and its tenth largest supplier, that our trade has amounted to 600 million dirhams, and that Morocco's exports to the Soviet Union are concentrated basically on early vegetables and its imports concentrated on crude oil, petroleum and timber. In addition to these commercial relations, Moroccan-Soviet cooperation covers various vital sectors such as phosphates, geology, energy, and sea fishing. This meeting was attended by [name indistinct], general secretary of the ministry, the head of the minister's office, and the Soviet ambassador to rabat.

Minister of Transportation Mohamed Nasser received the Soviet fish industry minister. The talks concentrated on (?technical) cooperation between the two countries [word indistinct] spheres and especially sea fishing. The two sides have agreed to set up joint companies to develop this sector.

SUDAN

OFFICIAL DISCLOSES NATURE OF ETHIOPIAN BORDER INCURSIONS

LD061936Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD/EA

[Text] Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the republic and secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Union, has been informed of the results of the visit to the United Kingdom by Mr Joseph Lagu, first assistant secretary general and president of the High Executive Council for the southern region, when he received the latter in his office at the people's palace this morning.

Joseph Lagu stated that the discussions he had held during his visit to the United Kingdom, which was at the invitation of Judith Hart, Britain's minister for overseas development, had been successful. He told SUNA that he had discussed British assistance to the southern region with British officials.

On contacts with brother expatriates there, Joseph Lagu said that he had held successful telephone conversations with brother (Gordon Motan), at present in London, on his efforts to unite the brother expatriates and about contacts he was making regarding repatriation.

Mr Lagu also confirmed that the recent armed aggression against the Akoke area in Upper Nile Province had been carried out by the Sudanese on the Ethiopian-Sudanese border with the knowledge of the Ethiopian Government. He said a Sudanese force was currently stationed on the border to preserve security and that there had been no further aggression. He said he himself had toured the area and had acquainted himself with the events there. Lagu emphasized that the situation in the southern region was most reassuring.

A group of dissidents, who had recently arrived from across the Ethiopian border, attacked the Akoke project, killing a number of farmers and burning some tractors.

MINISTER PRAISES U.S. EFFORTS IN MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA

LD011840Y Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD/EA

[Text] The African-American conference was concluded last night in Khartoum. The minister of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs addressed the closing session. He said that relations between the Sudan and the USA are excellent. He said that the Sudan, as an African country, (?thought) that there has been remarkable progress in the understanding of the situation of liberation progress in the African Continent by the USA. He went on to say that Sudan, as an Arab country, (?feels) that the USA is working hard to find a just solution and a permanent peace in the Middle East.

Dr Deng stressed that the Sudan's foreign relations are based on the internal policy aimed at solving its problems peacefully and improving the social and economic position. Our internal policy, he said, considers that our dedication to peace and progress internally and internationally is necessary. He said that Africa and the USA were facing challenges together, such as the struggle against imperialism and racial discrimination. He said that the struggle of the USA in defense of democracy and human rights were aspirations which necessitate the intensification of the African struggle against the enemies of the freedom and human prestige. Because the USA was the richest and strongest country in the world, he said, it was therefore facing a challenge of helping poor countries, particularly Africa, in order to stop those people attempting to impose domination.

TUNISIA

TUNISIAN-SUDANESE COOPERATION TREATY RATIFIED

LD241752Y Tunis TAP in English 1605 GMT 24 Nov 78 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Nov 24 (TAP)--During a ceremony held in the headquarters of the International Cooperation Department within the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Isma'il Khalil, international cooperation director and Jaafar Abu Haj, ambassador of Sudan in Tunis, [name and position as received] exchanged the ratifying implements of the cooperation accord signed between Tunisia and Sudan in the fields of education, culture, tourist trade and information.

PRIME MINISTER VISITS BOURGUIBA IN BONN CLINIC

LD062110Y Hamburg DPA in German 1749 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Bonn--Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira today visited President Habib Bourguiba at Bonn's University Clinic where the president is undergoing medical treatment. After a talk, at which Tunisian Ambassador Driss Guiga was also present, Bourguiba and Nouira had a lengthy private conversation.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON EL AAIUN, TIFARITI ATTACKS

LD042238Y Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 4 Dec 78 LD

[Summary] Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (liberated territories), APS--The Defense Ministry of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] has issued a military communique pointing out that the Saharan popular forces have carried out a new military operation, striking at the positions of the occupation forces in El Aaiun. The communique adds that as a result of the operation 16 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 30 injured.

"The communique from the SDAR Defense Ministry also states that the next day, Saharan fighters again attacked the monarchist garrison at Tifariti with heavy fire, completely destroying an enemy military camp, causing the death of five monarchist soldiers and wounding some ten others.

"Various other military installations in the enemy garrison were hit by ALPS [Saharan People's Liberation Army] artillery, causing important material damage, the military communique also states."

APS CITES COMMUNIQUE ON NOVEMBER MILITARY OPERATIONS

LD052246Y Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 5 Dec 78 LD

[Summary] Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (liberated territories), APS--The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Defense Ministry has just issued a communique on the military operations of the Saharan People's Liberation Army for the month of November 1978. These operations resulted in 568 enemy soldiers being killed and more than 55 others wounded; the army also captured 3 soldiers.

Thirty-one trucks, 19 jeeps, 7 armored vehicles and 11 [word indistinct] were destroyed. Four trucks, 19 jeeps, 1 106mm gun, 12 mortars, 22 12.7mm and 30 (?calibre) machineguns, 5 antitank rocket launchers, 89 FAL rifles, 9 radio transmitters and 41 cases of ammunition were also captured.

Out of 40 operations launched by the Saharan People's Liberation Army throughout the month, 15 took place within Moroccan territory, including near Tan-Tan.

POLISARIO OFFICIAL REGRETS MAURITANIA'S BREAKING OFF TALKS

LD050015Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 4 Dec 78 LD

[Text] In a statement made to an APS correspondent, the assistant secretary general of the POLISARIO Front, Bachir Mustapha Sayed, expressed regret at Mauritania's halting of the negotiations without fixing a date for their resumption. He explained that the Mauritanian delegation did not discuss the problem of Western Sahara in a positive manner, in all the meetings held between the Mauritanian and the Saharan delegations, whether in Paris, Tripoli, Bamako or a fourth African capital. During these negotiations, Mauritania was content to express its good intentions for peace, but ultimately it showed the opposite by taking its final stand with the other party. Bachir Mustapha Sayed explained that the POLISARIO Front has said more than once that peace cannot be achieved without reaching agreement on the retrieval of the occupied Saharan territories. The Saharan official affirmed that the only effort toward peace in the region was made by the POLISARIO Front in its historic decisions to unilaterally and temporarily halt the military operations.

SDAR ISSUES STATEMENT ON DELEGATION'S VISIT TO GREECE

LD301218Y Algiers APS in French 0700 GMT 30 Nov 78 LD

[Text] The liberated areas, APS--Following the visit paid to Greece by a POLISARIO Front delegation led by Mlaynin Ould as-Siddiq, member of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's [SDAR] Political Bureau, and accompanied by Muhammad Ould Ahmad az-Zayn, deputy speaker of the SDAR National Assembly, and Umar Ali, representative of the POLISARIO Front in Italy, the SDAR Information Ministry has issued a statement saying that the Saharan delegation met with Greek political and (trade union?) forces.

Following its visit, the delegation met the Greek press, which reported the activities of the SDAR aimed at attaining complete independence and national sovereignty.

The Saharan delegation was received by the Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement, by the New Democracy Party and by the Greek Communist Party. The delegation was also received by senior officials of the Greek Foreign Ministry.

The statement said that all these political and government forces have reaffirmed their absolute solidarity with the struggle of the Saharan people to attain their internationally recognized rights.

The delegation also held a working session with the committee of friendship with the POLISARIO Front.

POLISARIO ENVOY COMMENTS ON OAU ATTEMPT TO SOLVE SAHARAN ISSUE

LD040806Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] POLISARIO'S OAU representative made a statement to the press, in which he commented on the results of the meeting of the OAU committee charged with the task of finding a solution for the Saharan problem. He said: We hoped that the committee would address an appeal to the two aggressing countries to withdraw their forces from the soil of the Saharan people, so that this committee can carry out its task in the best manner.

He explained that the self-determination and independence right of the Saharan people was established 14 years ago by the international organizations, and that the solution which must now be sought is nothing but the withdrawal of the forces which are obstructing the liquidation of colonialism in the country.

He stressed that the Saharan people have the ability to evict the aggressors; this people will resort to all the potential it possesses for this purpose, something which the OAU has failed to realize. This being the case, the Saharan representative explained, the organization must be firm in imposing the observance of principles so that it does not facilitate the imposing of a policy which would perpetuate the existing situation.

DJIBOUTI OFFICIAL'S SUPPORT FOR SAHARANS' RIGHTS REPORTED

LD061546Y Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Djibouti--Mr Mohamed Ould Saydati, minister and adviser to the Presidency in the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's Council of Ministers, recently visited Djibouti, where he had talks with that country's minister of foreign affairs. During the talks, which lasted nearly 2 hours, Mr Mohamed Ould Saydati explained to the Djibouti official the various developments in the Saharan people's struggle to impose their national independence. The Djibouti minister of foreign affairs expressed the Djibouti Government and people's support of the Saharan people's right to self-determination and independence, a right for which the Djibouti people fought for a long time at the cost of many sacrifices. He also assured the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic delegation of the Djibouti Government's support for the legitimate rights of the Saharan people in all the international organizations, particularly the United Nations and the OAU.

IDF RADIO QUOTES KHALIL ON MEETING WITH DAYAN, WEIZMAN

TA062145Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2145 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[From the IDF Late-Night Newsreel]

[Text] Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil said today that he might meet with Foreign Minister Dayan in Europe during their stay there and that he is ready for such a meeting. Prior to his departure from Vienna on his way to London, Khalil said his trip and Dayan's trip to Switzerland were linked. He said Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman had phoned him in Washington while he was there for talks with President Carter and told him that he and Dayan wished to meet with him somewhere in Europe. Khalil added: We have not yet decided on a final date, but I agree to such a meeting.

In Jerusalem, our correspondent received no official confirmation of an expected meeting between Dayan and Khalil nor of the planning of such a meeting prior to the foreign minister's departure for Switzerland.

DAYAN, WEIZMAN DENY KNOWLEDGE OF MEETING WITH KHALIL

TA070517Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpt] A spokesman for Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has said in Switzerland that he does not know anything about a reported meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Khalil. A similar answer was given to our correspondent at the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry.

Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman told our correspondent Zevi Lidar this morning that he was not leaving the country.

FOREIGN MINISTRY AIDE LEAVES LEEWAY FOR MEETING

TA071016Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The foreign minister's aide, Naftali Lavi, has said that as of this time no announcement from an Egyptian source or any other source has arrived in Bern of an expected meeting between Dayan and Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil. Neither has such an appeal arrived at the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry. Dayan is currently on an official visit to Switzerland.

In a telephone conversation with our correspondent Zevi Lidar, Naftali Lavi said there was no reason to reject an Egyptian appeal if such an appeal were made. It is true that Dayan's schedule is pretty tight, but there is always room for flexibility if the need for such a meeting should arise, in which case both the right time and the place will be found.

BEGIN TO MEET WITH AS-SADAT'S ENVOY IN OSLO

TA061226Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Dec 78 pp 1,8 TA

[By Arye Zimmuqi]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will meet and talk with Sayid Mar'i, As-Sadat's assistant and the father of his son-in-law, when the two are guests in the palace of the Norwegian king.

The prime minister's adviser for communications and foreign press, Dan Patir, reported this morning that the Norwegians are making special efforts to exhibit friendliness toward the Israeli prime minister and the Egyptian representative who will come to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Among other things, the Norwegian prime minister and foreign minister will go to the royal palace on Monday to hold separate talks with Prime Minister Begin.

BEGIN REAFFIRMS ISRAEL WILL NOT ACCEPT PALESTINIAN STATE

TA070600Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Begin has again said that Israel will never recognize the PLO nor agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state. He told the Austrian newspaper NEUES VOLKSBLATT that the PLO is an organization of murderers. The paper has also published an interview with President as-Sadat, who reportedly has said that a Palestinian state would not pose a danger to Israel.

BEGIN WARNS AS-SADAT AGAINST PUBLISHING LETTERS

TA061522Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[From the IDF Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Our correspondent has been informed by the prime minister's office that if Egypt publishes sections from the exchange of letters between President as-Sadat and the prime minister, Menahem Begin, despite the prior agreement that they were confidential, Israel is likely to publish the text of Mr Begin's letter.

MINISTER NISSIM EXPRESSES FEAR OF EGYPT'S INTENTIONS

TA070830Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Minister [without portfolio] Moshe Nissim has expressed the fear that Egypt might have had certain intentions when it requested the cancellation of article 6 of the peace treaty. Speaking at a meeting of the younger generation of the Liberal Party in the Likud, the minister said that this article was the cornerstone of the agreement, because Egypt might sign agreements with Syria or Jordan, or, perhaps, even with Iraq which would commit it to go to war against Israel under conditions beyond its control.

CORRESPONDENT SPECULATES ON VANCE VISIT

TA061631Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[From the IDF Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] As has already been said, Jerusalem is pointing out that the fact that the Vance trip to the Middle East will begin in Egypt is a positive sign. Israel will be the second stop in the secretary of state's trip. Our correspondent Yosi 'Abadi reports:

An atmosphere of uncertainty characterizes the expectations in regard to the visit by the U.S. secretary of state. It is not clear what Vance is bringing and whether he has any compromise proposals with him. Past experience proves that the secretary of state makes preparatory moves toward meetings, such as that at Leeds Castle, and sometimes he works behind the scenes before compromises or contacts are made.

On the one hand, the fact that the visit is beginning in Egypt is an encouraging sign. It appears that Vance, who persuaded Israel to accept the draft peace treaty, recognizes the fact that Cairo is responsible for the current freeze in the negotiations. He will try to persuade As-Sadat, particularly on the matter of article 6. Israel believes the United States agrees that without that article the entire agreement is not very significant. On the other hand, Jerusalem fears a compromise which Vance may bring with him after his visit to Egypt. Here, too, past experience proves that U.S. pressure which meets Egyptian opposition changes its direction toward Israel very rapidly. Jerusalem believes it is very hard for Israel to make compromises beyond those it has already made in the negotiations.

What compromises is Vance likely to achieve? Maybe accompanying letters to the treaty, bypassing the problems in the negotiations. Jerusalem is saying that if there is any room for additional letters, it is only for letters providing details and explanations, not letters expressing reservations or changing the draft peace treaty. Another compromise could be: Article 6 remains in the treaty in return for an Israeli concession on the issue of Judaea and Samaria. The cabinet's position up to now has been that there is no room for such a compromise since even setting a timetable is not acceptable to Israel.

The foreign minister said this morning upon his departure for Switzerland that he expected Vance would bring an Egyptian message which would permit a thaw in the freeze. In Jerusalem's view, this thaw depends more than anything else on the success of Vance's visit to Cairo.

POST on Vance Visit

TA070800Y Jerusalem POST in English 7 Dec 78 p 8 TA

[Editorial: Waiting for Vance]

[Text] For more than two weeks there have been clear signs of paralysis in the peace treaty negotiations between Egypt and Israel. That this should become vivid precisely on the eve of the Nobel Peace Prize award to President as-Sadat and Premier Begin is an irony that only highlights the crisis in the talks.

Now President Carter has decided to despatch Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to Cairo and Jerusalem in order to get the talks started again.

Despite an earlier statement by Mr Dayan that there was nothing further to talk about, the government has let it be known that it is prepared to resume negotiations. But there must be some tangible sign that forward movement is possible.

Fundamentally the issue is Egypt's increasing fear of being left along in the Arab world, adrift with only Israel for companionship. Mr as-Sadat has for an entire year withstood this fear. But at each stage, when he was compelled to reject or accept a formulation, whether at Ismailia, or Camp David or Blair House, this concern about Arab reaction was a forceful presence.

Mr Begin has been sensitive to the issue. He has continuously declared that Israel is not driving to make a separate peace with Egypt, that such a treaty should be followed by treaties with other neighbours, and that the immediate next step is to be establishment of autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza.

But it is also true that other elements in Mr Begin's government have not shared this sensitivity and have made matters more difficult for Egypt. Thus after Camp David they pressed for immediate settlement activity. And when in Cairo there was concern about linking a peace treaty with specific commitments to implement the autonomy scheme, reports were introduced into the Israeli press about all the things Israel does not intend to relinquish on the West Bank.

This week too, even as the negotiations were deadlocked, government sources pronounced that the three-month suspension on settlement activity that emerged from the Camp David meetings ends in less than a fortnight. Certainly it would be more wise for Mr Begin to put the lid on these declarations now than to be compelled once again to call a halt to settlement activities in two weeks because they are a political embarrassment.

Plainly, the key to breaking the present deadlock is to develop formulations--whether in the treaty or in accompanying texts--that permit Egypt to show that it has not opted out of the Arab world and Arab concerns, and yet enable Israel to implement the autonomy plan as envisaged three months ago at Camp David.

Fundamentally that vision was to get the autonomy scheme started without irrevocable or contractual commitments that would predetermine what was to happen after the end of the five-year duration of the autonomy rule. As a result the Camp David accords contained considerable ambiguity. But the reason for the ambiguity was constructive; namely to avoid deadlock now over matters that would best be left for consideration after autonomy had begun to run its course.

The Egyptian insistence on a time table, including a date for elections, like the American assurances to West Bankers and to King Husayn about the ultimate result of autonomy, set the cart before the horse and was unacceptable to Mr Begin.

If Mr Vance comes armed with formulations and ideas that can move the parties back to the original Camp David package--avoiding the need now for agreements on substantive aspects of the autonomy plan, then he should be able to get the talks resumed again.

For having invested so much, and with such basic interests at stake, the principal thrust in Jerusalem, Cairo, and of course Washington, remains--namely to achieve a peace treaty. Properly managed, that thrust should get the parties past the final hurdles.

PERES RETURNS FROM U.S., THINKS TREATY WILL BE SIGNED

TA061448Y Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1340 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] On Thursday, the chairman of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres, expressed his belief that despite the current difficulties, the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt will be signed in the end. "I assume that in the end it will be possible to bridge the gap and the differences of opinion between Israel and Egypt," Mr Peres said, "and this will be through the well-known and accepted method, that the agreement signed at Camp David will remain without any change, while the peace agreement is also signed."

Mr Peres made his remarks at Ben-Gurion Airport Thursday afternoon on his return via El Al from New York, at the end of a week's visit to the United States, where he met with Vice President Walter Mondale, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and the U.S. President's national security adviser, Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, in Washington.

Replying to questions, Mr Peres said there would be compromise proposals, but he had doubts as to whether the peace agreement would in fact be signed by 17 December, which is the end of the 3 months' period set at Camp David for the achievement of peace. He explained he had formed the impression that every day that passed lessened the chances of signing the peace treaty.

Asked whether Israel would agree to the introduction of changes into what had already been agreed upon to date, Mr Peres expressed the view that the draft itself was not the most glittering and, in his opinion, if the agreements signed are not changed--this would endanger the peace agreement. "The Government of Israel has informed Washington that what was said in the agreement signed at Camp David is not to be touched, but, as for the peripheral letters--that is, the letters accompanying the treaty--that is something else," Mr Peres said.

On his impressions of his talks with his interlocutors in Washington, Mr Peres said that, in his opinion, Israel has recently been presented as the most intransigent side and this harms Israel's credibility.

According to MK Peres, Mr Begin's letter to As-Sadat was presented in the United States as a grave erosion of Israel's image, while Egypt, from the aspect of its image, is progressing. He added that this affects the circle of Israel's supporters and it follows from this that we will have problems. "Israel's appearances, particularly the theatrical side of these appearances, do not exactly conquer hearts," Mr Peres said.

Asked how Israel's image is being depicted, with the prime minister's trip to Oslo, Mr Peres said "the United States is amazed at this trip. First of all, there is no peace and therefore the problem is not whether As-Sadat is going or not. The special plane, the large entourage--all this sounds like something from another world. They are finding it hard to understand what exactly is happening here, what the festival is. If a prize is due, maybe it is due, but not from the Nobel Institute. The peace treaty has not been signed and the whole matter is arousing particular wonder."

Mr Peres was also asked about his party's political approach. He said the United States knows that the Labor Party prefers broader political considerations to passing opportunities. He pointed out that when he spoke with his interlocutors in Washington he had rejected the problem of the linkage out of hand. Mr Peres said he did not see that Israel could commit itself, even vaguely, to holding elections in Judaea and Samaria in another year. "There are the most grave arguments between us and Egypt, since there are various matters which we cannot accept and we will not concede them," Mr Peres said. "To say that there will be autonomy or that there will be elections in another year is irresponsible."

In conclusion, Mr Peres said that before his departure for the United States he had said he believed that the peace agreement with Egypt would be signed, but he believed that there would be no peace if no reasonable solution was found to Egypt's demands to set a date, right now, for elections in Judaea and Samaria.

"Such a clash only endangers the peace process with Egypt, since a peace treaty is only a document and what is more important is what follows it," Mr Peres concluded.

LABOR PARTY OFFICE ENDORSES PARTY LINE ON PEACE TREATY

TA070645Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The Labor Party Office has unanimously endorsed a political summation submitted by its chairman, Shim'on Peres. The office decided that the party will determine its position in the Knesset only after it sees the final results of the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations. The party also objects to a legal linkage of the peace treaty with Egypt to negotiations on other fronts, including autonomy. Similarly, the Labor Party demands that Israel's authority be guaranteed in the security and settlement areas in the Jordan Valley, Gush 'Ezyon and the southern part of the Gaza Strip.

More on Party Meeting

TA062124Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The chairman of the Labor Party said that Israel is now in one of the gravest situations in its history and woe to the Labor Party if it is described as being the one who damaged peace for party reasons. He said that the party had to explain to the public what the red line was. If this line is crossed, the party would not be able to support the peace treaty. He proposed that, at this point, no final decision be made on the faction's voting in the Knesset on the matter of approving the peace treaty and explained that the Alinement would submit a proposal of its own. MK Peres was speaking this evening at a meeting of the Labor Party's Office and its Knesset faction.

MK Yosi Sarid expressed doubts about the chances of signing a peace treaty and about effecting autonomy. He said that if autonomy was established, the worst possible Palestinian state would emerge and therefore the Alinement must propose, right now, establishing a Palestinian state. Such a proposal would, in his opinion, bring Jordan and Saudi Arabia back into the negotiations and would provide possibilities for border amendments and for leaving the settlements as a security strip.

MK Amos Hadar called for the government to be ousted through a vote on the peace treaty in order to contain the erosion which has taken place. He proposed making support for the treaty dependent on the fact that autonomy would guarantee that the Jordan Rift Valley, Gush 'Ezyon and greater Jerusalem would remain Israel's security areas.

MK RUBINSTEIN: AUTONOMY DANGEROUS, BUT NO ALTERNATIVE

TA061704Y Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1605 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Speaking to students in Wise Hall of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, MK Amnon Rubinstein said that the autonomy program was bad and dangerous and it was easy to criticize it, but that all the alternatives were either more dangerous or would torpedo the peace agreement with Egypt. MK Rubinstein said that the SHAY movement had not ceased to believe in territorial compromise as a permanent solution to the dispute and as the only solution guaranteeing Israel's security needs and character as a Jewish, democratic society. However, at this stage, with Egypt isolated in the Arab world because of its peace initiative, no solution bringing in its wake further annexation to Israel was conceivable.

The autonomy program is difficult for Israel, but the other alternative, that of going to Geneva, is infinitely harder, as we would be facing a united Arab front and with the Soviet Union acting as a chairman. MK Rubinstein added that it would be easier for Israel to conduct the negotiations over the future of Judaea and Samaria after peace with Egypt and at the beginning of the process of normalization than under any other possible conditions.

MK Rubinstein severely criticized the Alinement for not taking a stand on such a vital issue and for a lack of decision in the serious differences of opinion between the hawks and the doves. He also said that the attacks on the government on the matter of the peace among large sections of the Likud were destroying the foundations upon which a correct parliamentary regime is built.

MK TALMI SAYS MAPAM CONSIDERING LEAVING ALINEMENT

TA062033Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] MAPAM Secretary MK Me'ir Talmi is proposing disbanding the Alinement in its present form. According to his proposal, MAPAM would change the existing framework of partnership with the Labor Party into dialog and coordination between the two parties. Other proposals emerging within MAPAM actually speak of the need to unify the components of the Alinement. This evening, these proposals were placed on the agenda of the MAPAM Secretariat, which opened a debate on them in an attempt to crystallize proposals on the way in which the party will continue to operate. The proposals will be decided upon at the MAPAM congress to be held in 2 months. Our correspondent on party affairs, Amnon Nadav, spoke about the debate going on in MAPAM with MAPAM Secretary General Me'ir Talmi: [begin recording]

[Talmi] As I see it, before the congress we will find ourselves with several proposals on the table and they are in a common camp which is quite clear. The great majority of our party members think that the Alinement as it is now has no raison d'etre. Nevertheless, we all think that we must establish a method of partnership, a socialist-Zionist partnership, first and foremost with the Labor Party, on a different basis. There are several proposals on this matter, but they are all in a common camp.

[Question] What is now disturbing MAPAM?

[Answer] Under present circumstances, there are two things [as heard]: the fact that the Alinement institutions do not really exist. The factions worked, but the factions spent their days dealing with common external appearances. The clarification of methods, the strategy of the workers' movement in Israel and the basic problems of the country and of the workers' movement were, in fact, not clarified in common. There were decisions and they were binding. We reached the point where MAPAM's image was to a great extent blurred in the public's eyes.

[Question] Why today, then, and not 2 years ago? Or why not in another year or two?

[Answer] In fact, we have been postponing the decision for 2 years now, and before the elections we were faced with the same question. We decided at that time that we had to appear together in the elections and we decided together that we would resume this discussion after a certain period.

We are standing by the decisions we accepted and the timing is not connected with any sort of special event or any dispute with the Labor Party. Definitely not. They are connected with a basic problem which MAPAM must cope with, must argue about within itself to its conclusions and handle matter in accordance with the views of the majority of its members. [end recording]

CHANGEOVER IN COORDINATOR IN TERRITORIES POSTPONED

TA071035Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Dec 78 p 7 TA

[By YEDI'OT AHARONOT military correspondent]

[Text] Maj Gen Dani Mat will take office as coordinator of activities in the administered territories only on 1 February 1979, replacing Maj Gen Avraham Orly, who is resigning from the IDF. Dani Mat is now a judge in the military court for appeals and another senior officer will replace him.

The postponement of Maj Gen Dani Mat's entry into office as coordinator of activities in the territories was made in order to permit the current coordinator, Maj Gen Avraham Orly, to make the required preparations for the founding of autonomy, if this is agreed upon by the sides in the peace talks.

GOVERNMENT NOT COMMITTED TO RESUME SETTLEMENTS IMMEDIATELY

TA061936Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The director of the prime minister's office says that the government has not committed itself to resuming the settlement activity in the territories immediately after 17 December. He pointed out that it is the government which will decide on the timing of the resumption of settlements. At the same time, Mr Qadishay stressed that, in principle, the freeze on settlements applies for only 3 months from the date that the Camp David agreements were signed--that is, until 17 December. However, he said, it is possible that building activities might be resumed 2 or 3 days later. He was speaking with our correspondent Zevi Lidar.

Cabinet To Decide

TA070536Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Text] As reported by our correspondent Zevi Lidar, Israel regards itself free of any obligation to freeze settlement activity after 17 December, but the cabinet will decide on the date for the renewal of this activity. Jerusalem emphasizes that Israel committed itself to freeze settlement activity for only 3 months, after which time it will regard itself free of any obligation in this respect either toward the United States or any other element.

STUDENTS, MERCHANTS PROTEST DEMOLITION OF SILWAD HOUSE

TA061030Y Jerusalem Domestic Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] In Ramallah there was a shopkeepers' strike and children did not go to school this morning in protest against the demolition of the house in Silwad. The merchants opened their shops later, but the students caused disturbances in the streets, erected roadblocks and shouted slogans such as: We do not fear Zionism. They gathered near the townhall to hear a statement by Mayor Karim Khalaf. Security officers dispersed them, but they reassembled in other places.

Our correspondent has learned that the local residents are organizing a trip to the village of Silwad to demonstrate there. Several buses have arrived at Bi'r Zayt college to transport the students to Silwad.

TEACHER, TWO STUDENTS NOT PERMITTED IN JUDAEA, SAMARIA

TA061913Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] A teacher and two students from Bi'r Zayt College, who are citizens of Israel, are not permitted to enter Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that restriction orders have been issued against them. The three are (Antoine Fader) from Gush Halav, (Hassan Jabrin) and (Muhammad Salam) from Umm al-Fahm. As far as can be determined the security personnel suspect them of inciting the college students.

COURT ORDER BANS DESTRUCTION OF AL-BIRAH HOUSE

TA061904Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Supreme Court Judge Yizhaq Kahan has issued an interim order forbidding the security authorities in Judaea and Samaria to destroy the house of an inhabitant of Al-Birah, near Ramallah. In an appeal, (Hasan Abu Gosh) aged 73, claims that the security authorities intend to destroy his house because of the security violations committed by one of his sons who had left home even before he was arrested. The son was sentenced to 3 years' detention.

W. BANK WRITER CALLS FOR PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE, UNITY

JN041828Y Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 29 Nov pp 1,5 JN

[Mikha'il Abu Sa'da article: "Have We Benefited From Our Mistakes?"]

[Excerpts] Great is the man who admits his errors. He will try to overcome them and transform them from setbacks and disasters into victories and into reasons for alertness. The speed of events in the Middle East forces us in the West Bank and Gaza, in particular, and in the Arab states in general to reevaluate our policies and to reexamine most of our previous methods of facing these events.

In my view, we have not benefited from our past mistakes. The Arab states are still split.

As for us, the people of the West Bank and Gaza, we likewise have not learned from our mistakes so as not to commit them in the future. Some of us are living a feudal life owing allegiance to the tribal system. We cannot escape from the domination of our tribe. What the tribal chief says is always true and must be followed without question. We are divided into many factions, each faction supporting a certain side; some of us support the Palestinian organizations and each organization has its own supporters; some of us support the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; some support the Syrian Ba'thists, some the Iraqi Ba'thists; some of us belong to the communist party or to some other party; some of us like this or that foreign or Arab state; and some of us like the continuation of the status quo.

At this critical stage we must forget our numerous parties, renounce our private feelings and think of ourselves as one Palestinian people belonging to the same land and seeking to establish for ourselves a permanent entity on our land. This demands unified efforts and right thinking, in order to overcome our emotions, which lead us astray. This demands the careful study of every suggestion put to us and a clear and comprehensive way of rejecting, accepting or suggesting alternatives. In order to have this, we must renounce the blatant bickering and quarrels which we direct to all those who do not support our views or to those not of our party. Thus, we will become one nation and one rank and we can challenge anything.

The Arab states are called on now, before it is too late, to revise their inter-Arab relations and reunite their ranks. They must use means of persuasion, not threats, because threats will not pay. The Arab states must study current circumstances carefully and move very fast to salvage the current Arab situation; otherwise, our cause and the Arab cause will be lost. Regrets will not save us. In the past, we demanded the whole of Palestine; now we beg to return to the 1967 borders, and we are not getting that. O Arabs, fear God, use your brains and be united in demanding what is rightfully yours.

The people of the West Bank and Gaza are also called on to move; they cannot afford to be spectators or listeners. Our inaction will not serve the organizations or the Arab states. Our movement will back and support them.

Therefore, I suggest that a general, comprehensive meeting be held which will include most factions of the people. This meeting should give birth to a supreme council for political and economic planning. This council would study the current situation and draft a comprehensive memorandum supported by proof and facts on what our people in the West Bank and Gaza want. From this council a delegation would be formed to carry this memorandum to every Arab state, to the Palestinian organizations and to every foreign country concerned with the Middle East. Thus, coordination between the Palestinians inside and the Palestinians outside and between the Palestinians and the Arab states would be complete. We would also make ourselves heard all over the world.

Our inaction shows that we are satisfied with what is going around us. Our action can be brought about only through such a council, which will take care of us and speak on our behalf. Some time ago I demanded on these pages the establishment of such a council. If this council had been in existence we would not have been afraid to reject meeting some of the foreign personalities who have visited the region and explain our demands fully.

I hope that the formation of the council will take place in the present circumstances so as to make the world hear us, to show the justice of our demands. Then and only then will we find understanding for our position. I pray God to support all who work for their nation and country.

MAYOR ASH-SHAWWA'S LONDON SPEECH CIRCULATED IN GAZA

TA061830Y Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1720 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Gaza, 6 Dec--In the past few days an English translation of the speech delivered by Gaza Mayor Rashid ash-Shawwa 3 weeks ago in a symposium on the Camp David agreements that took place under the aegis of the Arab lobby in the House of Commons in London has been distributed among local intellectual circles in Gaza.

The pamphlet is headlined "Declaration by Mayor of Gaza Rashid ash-Shawwa" and, in fact, the mayor does not express any new positions.

Among other things, Ash-Shawwa voices criticism against the Camp David framework agreements, maintaining that they do not solve the central problem of the Middle East conflict--the Palestinian problem.

"If the United States sincerely wants to solve the Middle East problem it cannot ignore the central problem, which is the Palestinian problem, nor can it ignore the sole organization that represents the Palestinians--the PLO," Ash-Shawwa said.

Further on, Ash-Shawwa lists the six major reservations that he and his people have with respect to the agreements. Among other things, he maintains that the PLO, being the sole legal body representing the Palestinians, must be represented in all negotiations aimed at solving the problem.

In Ash-Shawwa's opinion, it should be insured that after the interim period there will be total Arab sovereignty over the Palestinian people and the conquered land. Israel must promise not to establish new settlements in the conquered territories and undertake to dismantle the settlements established there since 1967.

Ash-Shawwa maintains that the borders should be permanently decidedupon and that if there are to be any changes, they should be small and mutually agreed upon. At the end of his remarks Ash-Shawwa calls on the U.S. President to aid the Palestinians--at least to the same extent that aid was given in the past to the Zionist movement and the State of Israel.

Mr ash-Shawwa calls upon President as-Sadat not to sign any peace agreement that does not insure the basic interests of the Palestinian people.

ISRAEL ASKS NETHERLANDS TO EXTRADITE NAZI MENTEN

TA061152Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Israel today asked The Netherlands to extradite Nazi criminal Peter Menten, who was released from jail the day before yesterday. Minister [without portfolio] Moshe Nissim, currently acting justice minister, said that the Israeli Cabinet has asked Interpol to detain Menten if he should leave Holland, based on a hold warrant issued by an Israeli court about a year ago. Nissim called on all countries not to provide Menten asylum. He reported that on the initiative of Justice Minister Shemu'el Tamir the cabinet had decided to follow Nazis all over the world and to request the extradition of any Nazi criminal who is discovered.

Nissim was speaking in reply to a motion [in the Knesset] submitted by MK's Hillel Seidel and 'Aqiva Nof.

BRIEFS

MONEY FOR BEDOUIN SETTLEMENTS--The Supreme Council for Bedouin Affairs has approved 50 million Israeli pounds for the development of the Bedouin settlements in the north. About half of the sum will be dedicated to erection of schools for the Bedouin children and the rest will be dedicated to improving the facilities in 14 centers, including extending the water and electricity networks and improving the medical service. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 4 Dec 78 TA]

TEHRAN REPORTS RELEASE OF OPPOSITION LEADER KARIM SANJABI

LD071116Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 78 LD

[Text] According to information received, Messrs Dr Karim Sanjabi and Daryush Foruhar, who had been under arrest in accordance with article five of the martial law, were released last night.

Plans to Participate in Processions

TA071000Y Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 7 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpts] The National Front leader, who drew up a three-point declaration of principles during a visit last month to exiled religious opposition leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, said he continued to adhere to its terms. Sanjabi said he planned to take part in religious processions during Muharram--the current Shi'ite Moslem period of mourning--as long as the processions did not overstep "the threshold of violence."

Sanjabi Interviewed

LD061930Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] In Iran, a little less than a month after his arrest, National Front leader Karim Sanjabi, head of the political opposition, was released by the shah. He went home immediately. Prison did not change his views at all. He remains a relentless enemy of the Iranian monarchy. That is what Karim Sanjabi has just told correspondent Yves-Paul Vincent on the phone: [begin recording]

[Sanjabi] In the first 5 days we were [words indistinct] with other prisoners in two cells but later we were moved elsewhere and we were very well treated.

[Vincent] It has been said, Dr Sanjabi, that representatives of the Imperial Palace came to visit you in prison to attempt to negotiate with you.

[Sanjabi] No, there were no negotiations. I deny it. No, we had no contacts with representatives of the palace (?or) other government authorities.

[Vincent] Is it true, Mr Sanjabi, that General Moqaddam, who is the head of SAVAK [National Intelligence and Security Organization], came to visit you in prison?

[Sanjabi] Yes, General Moqaddam, who is the head of SAVAK, came to see me but we did not discuss, for example, the political situation or political topics, etc.

[Vincent] But do you not have the feeling that in fact your release was aimed a little at soothing the Iranian masses' anger?

[Sanjabi] [Answer indistinct]

[Vincent] It has been said that the Iranian military authorities, by releasing you, would give you a national dimension in Iran which perhaps you did not have before and that this would enable you to find it easier to accept joining a national unity cabinet.

[Sanjabi] This is absolutely false. I will not join a cabinet in the conditions currently existing in Iran. Nothing was discussed about that and I cannot accept any such conditions.

[Vincent] Will you continue, Dr Sanjabi, you who are the leader of the National Front--the main political and nonreligious organization in the country--will you continue to demand the departure of the shah?

[Sanjabi] We shall continue to demand what we have asked for until now and that which the people of Iran are demanding. [end recording]

In this telephone conversation with Yves-Paul Vincent, Mr Sanjabi added that he foresees more explosions of violence at the end of [word indistinct], that is, before Monday. In any case, if the Iranian authorities intended to make the leader of the National Front more moderate by arresting him a month ago, they failed because, as you heard, Mr Sanjabi continues to make statements which are as strong as those he made before his arrest.

SHAH PARDONS 233 PRISONERS ON OCCASION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION

LD071120Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 78 LD

[Text] At the command of the shahanshah aryamehr, on the occasion of the human rights declaration's anniversary on 10 December, 233 prisoners tried by judiciary courts have been pardoned and the gracious royal pardon has been communicated to the country's public prosecutor offices.

TEHRAN REPORTS 6 DECEMBER SENATE SESSION

LD061522Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Senate held an open session today. During the session held in the presence of General Azhari, the prime minister, members of the cabinet and under the chairmanship of Dr Seyyed Mohammad Sajjadi, six government bills were discussed and debated.

Addressing the prime minister, Senator Na'ini said: The remarks made by the Majlis deputies and senators should be fully reflected verbatim so that the people may realize what is happening in their country, what the government is saying and what we are saying. You have today inherited the most difficult problems of your life. There are strikes everywhere; the people are sabotaging industry; there are many problems. During the past 3 years and some months, no prime minister or minister bothered to ask what the problems were. Governments could have made use of senators' experience to do something to prevent the country plunging into the situation it is in now. Did the governments fully implement their programs as they promised the Majlis and the Senate? Have state programs been fully implemented? If they have been implemented, then tell us.

Today, our country is paying for the mistakes made by previous administrators. For months now, I have been saying here that, instead of imposing martial law, you should approach the people through peaceful means. But no one listened to me, and we see a number of people killed all over the country every day. How long must this situation continue? A knot should be handled with finesse, not force.

Our knotty problem can be resolved through political means, not by force. The use of force will not only fail to resolve the problem but will make it more intractable. The government should not engage in confrontation with the nation. The government should be free of dogmatism and protect the people's lives and property, not their opponents. Correct criticism will guide the government and guard against administrative mistakes and misconduct. Mistakes in the past led to silencing the people's tongues and concealing subversions. The result of this has led this country to this dangerous crisis.

Senator Na'ini added: Why does the government not appreciate the people's revolution and heed their demands? I denounce all this killing, and demand that the government end these killings. Dogmatism in running the country is a harmful thing. Abandon all these tough measures and dogmatic attitude, and think straight before making decisions. If you find it is beyond you to do a service, make way for a popular government which will mete out severe punishment to social criminals and replace the individual's will by the rule of law, which will bring about judicial security and soothe the deprived people. This is how to safeguard the country's independence and security. The present crisis should be resolved through diplomacy.

At this point Senator Vadi'ollah Fazel-Sarju'i, reviewing the reasons why he gave a vote of confidence to the government of General Azhari, submitted to the Senate a question addressed to the government and said: Unfortunately we can now observe that the people are idle, schools and universities closed and government agencies and organizations struck by slow-downs or closures. Everyone lives in a state of anxiety day and night; they cannot sleep peacefully; they are worried, and contemplate an uncertain and unknown future. The speaker added: Is your government able to restore security in the country and tranquility for the people without the use of arms or not? Have you envisioned any measures other than the use of arms to secure and establish security or not? If the answer is negative, I ask you, in the interest of the country and Iranian people, and for the sake of the country's general interests, to resign and make way for a civilian government of prudence and policy so that it may resolve the country's problems through prudent means and with patience, not by weapons and sword.

TEHRAN REPORTS 7 DECEMBER MAJLIS SESSION

LD071148Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 78 LD

[Text] At the Majlis session held today in the presence of a number of cabinet ministers, the texts of three censure motions against the government were read. Dr Javad Sa'id, the Majlis speaker, announced that the government will announce the date for replying to these three censure motions at the next session of the Majlis. During the Majlis session today several deputies submitted a suit to the Majlis against Mr Bani Ahmad, deputy from Tabriz [leader of an opposition parliamentary faction].

Several Majlis deputies also made remarks regarding the country's recent developments. Mr Parsa, deputy from Malavi, said: The ugly face of colonialism has once again appeared within the Iranian borders and it is bent on an aggression against our country and religion. Mr Mahuzi, deputy from Dashtestan, referring to the country's recent events, said: Executive organizations responsible have given plunderers a free hand to enrich themselves at the cost of the blood of the noble Iranian people.

PRIME MINISTER CLAIMS MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR SHAH

LD041304Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 1245 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Reporter Simon Dring's interview with Iranian Prime Minister Gholam Reza Azhari in Tehran--date not specified; recorded]

[Text] In Iran the shah has ordered the release of almost 500 [as received] prisoners arrested for antisecurity activities. Their pardon comes as an uneasy peace returned to the capital, Tehran, after 3 days of violent demonstrations against the shah. Despite the intense protests Iran's military prime minister, Gholam Reza Azhari, has made clear at a news conference that the shah's rule is not in danger. Our reporter Simon Dring asked him if there was any question of the shah's stepping down voluntarily.

[Azhari] Not at all. Not at all. Not at all. Why?

[Question] Is there any chance...

[Azhari] He has done a lot of good things for his country. Unfortunately, during these few months, everything that you have heard always is false, just a very bad picture. This country was a backward country, excuse me if I am telling this. During his reign this country has gone up. We had not such roads, we had not such railroads, we had not such schools, we had not factories, we had not education, we had not all these universities, we had not all these green fields that we now have. If I wanted to describe all these things, I take more than 2 hours. Therefore the people, those people, are seeing these things, they are appreciating. This is why I tell you that the majority of the people are behind his majesty.

AZHARI MEETS WITH STUDENTS; STUDENTS EXPRESS SUPPORT

LD071122Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A group of university students, at a meeting with General Gholam Reza Azhari, the prime minister, expressed their readiness to carry out national and patriotic tasks. At the meeting the prime minister expressed appreciation for the patriotic feelings of the students, who constitute the country's future capital.

MILITARY GOVERNORATE OF GAZVIN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE, ORDERS CURFEW

LD061438Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The military governorate of Gazvin today issued its 12th communique. The communique says that provocations by recognized organizations and individuals have recently taken place in order to instigate and corrupt the youth of Gazvin and this has led to the smashing of windows and fires in several banks and several incidents of hurling explosive materials. In order to assure the realization of security and tranquillity for the respected inhabitants of Gazvin, the curfew hours have been appointed as from 2100 until 0500 the next morning and will be force as from today, Wednesday, 6 December. The respected citizens are hereby requested to perform the mourning ceremonies of the days of Muharram in such hours as to stay away from all forms of political provocations and that all the relevant places would have been evacuated before the hour of 1700, and to observe the martial law regulations carefully when entering or going out of such places.

The military governor of Gazvin, Brigadier Ne'matollal Mo'tamedi.

EARTHQUAKE OCCURS; CAUSES NO CASULATIES

LD0709447 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Dec 78 LD

[Text] At 2049 and 32 seconds last night a relatively strong earthquake with the intensity of 5.5 on the Richter scale occurred southwest of Khorasan. According to our correspondent, the earthquake's epicenter was in Ferdows and surrounding villages. Furtunately, the earthquake caused no casualties.

OIL SHIFT WORKERS, NONESSENTIAL PERSONNEL GIVEN HOLIDAY

JN0707447 Abadan National Oil Radio in Persian 1410 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Summary] The personnel department at the Abadan refinery and the private companies have announced that Saturday, 9 December, is a holiday for shift workers and nonessential personnel. As reported earlier, the 9th day of Muharram, is a holiday too.

SUPPORT FOR SHAH PLEDGED BY KHUZESTAN TRIBES

JN0707507 Ahwaz Domestic Service in Persian 1333 GMT 6 Dec 78 JN

[Summary] At a patriotic meeting, people of (?Alaijan) Izeh, tribesmen, farmers, and members of the standing forces and rural cooperatives have criticized the current events in Iran and declared their active loyalty to the imperial regime. In a letter to the governor general of Khuzestan, they reiterated their support for the shah.

The people of the villages of Dar-e Gavnish and Pambekar, the residents of (?Abolabbas-e Janaki), and the tribes of Qa'ab, Qa'ab-e Karimollah, (?Anafjeh), 'Abdolghani and Al-e Hamid have also sent telegrams expressing readiness to sacrifice for Iran and his imperial majesty.

AFGHANISTAN

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

FL291121Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Nov 78 FL

[Text] Cuba and Afghanistan affirmed their support for the struggle by the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in a communique published in Kabul. The Cuban-Afghan joint communique issued at the end of Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's visit to that country also states that they are in favor of general and complete disarmament, international detente and peaceful coexistence.

Further Details

FL291408Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 78 FL

[Excerpt] They also highly value the role played by the USSR and the rest of the socialist community in strengthening world peace. The communique also expresses Cuban and Afghan concern about the situation created in the Middle East by Israel, which refuses to observe the UN resolutions on the Arab countries and the Palestinian people. The transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and support for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are other topics the two countries make pronouncement on in the document.

BANGLADESH

COMMERCE SECRETARY HEADS TRADE DELEGATION TO PEKING

BK061117Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 6 Dec 78 BK

[Text] A three-member Bangladesh trade delegation led by Commerce Secretary Matiur Rahman left Dacca today for Peking on a 5-day visit to China. During its stay the delegation will negotiate and conclude the third barter agreement between two countries.

INDIA

CALCUTTA STUDENTS PROTEST U.S. 'COLLUSION' WITH SHAH

OW061804Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1745 GMT 6 Dec 78 OW

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Dec (AFP)--About 500 students today demonstrated before the American Centre in Calcutta protesting against alleged U.S. collusion with the shah of Iran in his "repression on the common people" of that country. The demonstrators burnt an effigy of the shah. The protest was organised by various student organisations controlled by leftist parties, including communists.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER REITERATES STAND ON KASHMIR

BK061114Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Dec 78 BK

[Text] India is taking up with the UN secretary general its demand for the deletion of Jammu and Kashmir from a document of the world body listing territories under colonial or alien domination. External Affairs Minister Vajpayee assured the house today that the government would see that this malicious reference to an integral part of India is dropped. He was replying to a calling-attention notice by Mr Chita Bosu, Forward Bloc, and others.

He emphatically reiterated that the state is part and parcel of India and said Pakistan will be playing with fire by raising the issue of self-determination time and again in this manner. If Pakistan embarks on a misadventure on Kashmir once again, the results will not be good for that country.

Mr Vajpayee referred to the Simla agreement and said the two countries had agreed to have talks on the Kashmir question. As far as India is concerned it is prepared for the talks at any time. He made it clear that the only issue to be discussed is the forcible occupation of two-fifths of the state's territory by Pakistan. Members expressed strong resentment over Pakistan repeatedly harping on the Kashmir issue, especially when that government is facing some internal problems. Mr Vajpayee said events have shown that Pakistan has not been successful in such ventures in the past. India, he said, bears no ill will toward that country and wants to have the best of relations with it. But it is strong enough to face any challenge and Pakistan should not overlook that fact, he added.

DESAI OUTLINES POLICY ON SETTING UP ATOMIC POWERPLANTS

BK060932Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The government has adopted a policy to set up atomic power stations in areas far removed from the coal fields and where hydro resources are inadequate. This was stated by the prime minister in the Lok Sabha today.

Mr Morarji Desai said this policy should help in decentralization of industries. The government has spent over 1.23 billion rupees during the fourth plan and over 2.33 billion rupees during the fifth plan on the development of nuclear energy. Mr Desai informed the house that in addition to the heavy water plant at Nangal and the Tuticorin plant, three plants are presently under various stages of construction at Kotah, Baroda and Talcher. Three more plants have been proposed during the current, sixth, plan and the country is expected to attain self-reliance in the early 90s.

Mr Desai also said that nuclear waste disposal processes adopted in India compare favorably with those elsewhere in the world.

GANDHI ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF CONGRESS-I PARLIAMENTARY PARTY

BK060928Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi was today unanimously elected chairman of the Congress-I parliamentary party. Her name was proposed by Mr N.G. Ranga and seconded by Mr C.M. Stevens.

JANATA PARTY WINS BYELECTION IN UTTAR PRADESH

BK061011Y Delhi ISI in English 0831 GMT 6 Nov 78 BK

[Excerpts] The Janata Party has won the Fatehpur Lok Sabha election. Its candidate, Sayed Liaqat Hussain, was declared elected by a margin of 30,066 votes, defeating his nearest Congress-I rival Prem Dutt Tiwari. Sayed Liaqat Hussain secured 130,621 votes and Prem Dutt Tiwari got 100,555 votes. The Congress candidate, Ravinder Pal Singh, and 11 others in the field lost their deposit.

This is the second consecutive victory for the Janata Party in the recent Lok Sabha byelection. Of the ten Loc Sabha byelections held since the 1977 March poll, the Janata Party has won five, Congress-I three and Congress and Akali Dal one each. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Ram Naresh Yaday has hailed the Janata victory to the Fatehpur Lok Sabha byelection as the people's victory over antidemocratic forces.

NEPAL

COMMODITY GRANT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH DPRK

BK011519Y Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 1 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is to provide Nepal a commodity grant of 7,200 tons of cement and 120 tons of steel for construction of Mahana irrigation project in the far western development region. An agreement to this effect was signed in Katmandu today between his majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of the DPRK.

The project on completion will irrigate 3,500 hectares of land in Kaili and (Kantenpur) districts of the region. This is the first grant assistance to be provided by the Government of the DPRK to Nepal.

The agreement was signed by Mr (Bhubaneshwar Khatri), officiating secretary in the Ministry of Finance, and the ambassador of the DPRK, Mr So Chong-kuk, on behalf of his majesty's Government of Nepal and the DPRK Government, respectively.

PAKISTAN

TWO FORMER BHUTTO CABINET MINISTERS JAILED

BK041533Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1106 GMT 4 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 4 (AFP)--A former minister and secretary general of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Dr Ghulam Hussain, was sentenced to 1 year's imprisonment by a summary military court at Multan in the Punjab Province on Sunday, it was reported today. The court also passed an identical sentence on Farooq Leghari, another prominent leader of the party and a former minister. The charges against them included violation of restrictions on political activity, assault on government functionaries and inciting hatred against the armed forces.

They were arrested in October last during a visit to Multan by Benazi Bhutto, daughter of former Prime Minister Bhutto. Miss Benazi, who was also arrested, is under detention in Islamabad.

BHUTTO TO BE ALLOWED TO APPEAR BEFORE SUPREME COURT

BK051730Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The Supreme Court today granted the request of the appellant, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, to appear personally before the court to supplement the submissions of his counsel in the Mohammad Ahmed Khan case in case the appellant felt the need for such appearance after the completion of the defense submissions in reply to the prosecution case. The order was passed by the court on an application received by it from the appellant to jail authorities today.

The Supreme Court observed that ordinarily there was no practice to permit personal appearances when the appellant was represented by a counsel and there was no reason to change this practice. Therefore it considered that the defense counsel should complete his submissions in the court to the points of the prosecution and then we shall allow the personal appearance of the appellant on any question which he considers necessary. The court expressed the hope that the appellant would not repeat the ground which has been so adequately covered by his counsel. The defense counsel said his client has assured him that he would not make his personal appearance a platform for politics and he will not scandalize any institution nor would he be irrelevant.

The chief justice observed that the court hoped it would not be necessary for them to interrupt him. The counsel should clarify the mind of his client before he appears.

HAQ ADDRESSES NATION ON INTRODUCTION OF ISLAMIC IDEOLOGY

BK021723 [Editorial Report BK] Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu at 1515 GMT on 2 December carries a 25-minute recorded address to the nation by President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq. After reading a 7-minute verse from the Koran, Haq greets his countrymen on the onset of the holy month of Muharram. Haq says: "At the outset of this auspicious year, we are announcing safeguards for Islamic ideology in the country." Haq then recalls that although 30 years have passed since Pakistan came into being in the name of Islam, nothing has been done to introduce Islamic ideology into the country. Haq says that ever since his government came to power it has worked toward this aim and he is fortunate to be able to announce today "special declarations and measures leading to the creation of a climate conducive to the introduction of Islamic ideology into Pakistan."

Haq says that every Moslem must have faith in God and fulfill his responsibility to read Moslem prayers every day, especially on Friday. In this context, Haq announces that facilities will be provided in offices and other places of work to allow fulfillment of this responsibility.

General Haq, referring to the Islamized recodification of laws, says "as far as personal law [last two words in English] is concerned, the courts are already trying cases keeping in view the personal faith of citizens, and this process will continue." Turning to public law, Haq says that the government wants first to implement those laws which relate to the welfare of the people.

He then says: "The delay in the full introduction of Islamic ideology is due to the great amount of work still to be done in the economic field." Haq discusses the lack of means to implement fundamental elements of the Islamic economic system--zakkat (voluntary tax on surplus wealth for people's welfare programs) and usher (tax on gross agriculture production). The president says: "The matters of zakkat and usher are being examined by a committee comprising a few federal ministers and the chairman of the Islamic Ideology Council, and, God willing, the committee will soon submit its report to the government."

Turning to another fundamental element of Islamic society--abolition of the evil of interest, Haq says: "Religious experts are working on it and as soon as a practical solution is found, the government will, God willing, introduce an Islamic economic system.

"However, I am announcing a few measures in this direction. No interest will be charged on bicycle purchase advances given by the government or on house building corporation loans advanced to government employees grades 1 to 15. The NIT (National Investment Trust] in future will make investments only on the basis of equity and not on the basis of interest."

Haq then announces the setting up of Shariat benches in high courts in every district and a Shariat appeal bench in the Supreme Court to determine whether a law is Islamic or non-Islamic. Continuing, Haq says this determination can be requested by application by the federal government or provincial governments or by any citizen or by the benches themselves. No court fees will be charged for such applications.

Haq says every Shariat bench will have the powers of civil courts, and decisions will be made by majority. He says that "appeals against the decisions of the Shariat benches of high courts will lie before the Shariat appeal bench of the Supreme Court. The decisions of a Shariat bench or Shariat appeal bench will not be challenged in any civil court of law or tribunal. The decisions of the Shariat benches will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE." Haq says it will be binding on the government to amend concerned laws in the light of decisions of the Shariat benches.

He continues: "Other than this, the Islamic Ideological Council is actively working on the Islamization of laws. So far it has made recommendations concerning laws relating to theft and dacoity, drinking, rape and adultery and the protection of the freedom of faith. The council's recommendations are with the Law Ministry which is busy giving them legal shape. These laws will be enforced after approval by the federal cabinet."

Haq stresses that the "steps announced are a part of the efforts being made by the government for the establishment of an Islamic society. To achieve this objective, we will have to eliminate non-Islamic influences in all spheres of our activities, especially in our way of life--economic, judicial, educational and cultural."

Haq says the steps announced are the beginning of a journey toward the ideological goal set before the nation 30 years ago. He ends his speech by saying: "Now by the grace of God an atmosphere has been created in which any further big or small step by the present or a future government will, God willing, continue to lead the nation toward the goal of Islamic ideology."

Shariat Benches Ordered

BK0405302Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 4 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The president has issued an order providing for the constitution of Shariat benches in the three high courts and a Shariat appellate bench in the Supreme Court. This follows the announcement of a number of measures by the president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, to mark the beginning of the introduction of Nizam-i-Islam [Islamic system] in Pakistan.

The Shariat benches will consist of three Moslem judges of the high courts to be appointed by the president on the recommendation of the chief justice of the high court. The Shariat appellate bench shall consist of the three judges of the Supreme Court.